

38-45-33  
(19-45-33)

ASTORIA PICNIC  
LAURELHURST PARK





AUGUST 16,  
THE THIRD SUNDAY IN AUG.

Y O W I E!!!!!!!!!!!!

and a couple of Y I P -- Y I P S!!!!!!!!

FROM THE HOME OF THE FOUR LEGGED SALMON  
AND SALT SEA BREEZES  
AN' A POCKET FULL O' APPLES  
AND A BELLY FULL O' OLATSOP CHEESES...  
CAUSE WE'VE BEEN LONESOME FOR  
'AT GOOD OL' COLUMBIA RIVER  
'ATS WHY WE SEND YOU THIS GREETIN'  
JEST TUH JIGGLE UP YER LIVER.

The picnic grounds are reserved for the "Astorian's Picnic" from Noon to 5 P.M.

The picnic committee will supply all the coffee, sugar and coffee cream you can use...  
-----A L S O -----paper cups for drinkin' the coffee and those cute lil' ol' spoons to stir. an' another -- A L S O --There'll be plenty o' "Pop"--Pepsi, Cocoa and the fruit juices...YAH!!

There will also be an abundance of supprise gifts for those lucky ones whose names are picked in the drawings from the cards which you sign with your name and address and phone number---"We especially want the phone numbers o' the good lookin' gals)--when you first arrive at the picnic grounds---Be sure and sign these cards when you first come in--have each member of your family or crowd sign, so that you will have more than one chance of winning a supprise gift....

For many years, former Astorian's have set aside the third Sunday in August and gathered in Laurelhurst Park at the Noon hour for a picnic and get-to-gether. These have been enjoyable meetings and for many of us it is the only time during the year when we have a chance to meet up with our friends and neighbors of yesteryear.

Again we have set aside the third Sunday in August and made arrangements for the space known as "The Valley" on the north side of the park. The location is near the junction of Southeast Ankeny Street and Laurelhurst Avenue and there is plenty of parking space close to the picnic site. If you ride the streetcars or buses, the Mount Tabor; Burnside; Glisan and Thirty-ninth Avenue lines are all within easy walking distance of the picnic site. We will try to have signs at strategic locations pointing to the "Astoria Picnic".

We have about 300 cards with names and addresses of "Astorians" who have been in attendance in the past years. We are sending this notice to each of them, but it would be nice if you would locate some other "Astorian" who has not been coming to the picnic and urge them to pack a lunch and bring their family for an afternoon with their former Astoria friends and neighbors.



paper, the Astorian-Budget, inviting present and old-time residents to come up and be with us on that day...We have a special treat in store for them so they will not have to bring their lunch and picnic paraphernalia---It is this--Each of you who does bring a picnic lunch---bring enough for one or two more and you can be a host for one or two others who have travelled a long way to be with us at the picnic...That's our supprise for those who come up from Astoria and it will give all of us a chance to meet up with some other folks from the old home town.

We have a prominent former Astorian who will deliver an interesting and informative lecture on "Astoria, It's People, Their Accomplishments and Astoria's Place in the History of the Great Pacific Northwest"....It is none other than the Honorable Charles W. Robison, now assistant District Attorney of Multnomah County, and a fellow who was known in years gone by as the "Boy orator of the Lower Columbia". Charlie was long prominent in legal and political affairs down in the old home town.

Some of our old friends have passed on into eternal slumber since our last meeting and their passing is a loss to all of us...Others of us are not far from the same eternal sleep, but once a year while we are here we look forward to meeting those others who can still laugh and have a wistful "Do you remember?" session which we all enjoy.

This notice is somewhat earlier than the usual reminder. We are doing it in this manner, in the hopes it will be the cause of you holding the third Sunday in August open in your date book for meeting up with old friends and childhood pals. There will be another notice to you about ten days before the picnic date.....

Remember that it's the third Sunday in August and the date is the 16th.

The Astoria Picnic Committee  
for 1953.....Yow!!! Sahl!!!!



July 27-1953

Coffee Kitchen 1307 SW Jefferson

Phone Beacon 1927

Ordered 10 gals coffee  
with cream & sugar \$14.00  
Paid 8-17-53

Jim Gargan = Public Relations  
P E P Co

Ice 3 bags @ .85 cts = \$2.55

Soda pop 5 cases @ \$1.20 = \$6.00

Cigars, cigarettes etc: = 2.00

Stamps, letters, mailing = 16.00

Coffee etc: 14.00

Candy-cards & other prizes 7.00

Whiskey etc: - 11.00

Total \$58.55

\$26.26 \$5.65  
Collection & contributions 30.57

Deficit by Welch \$27.98



May 29 Legal Office Service  
1953

Cutting Xencit & Running

300 copies \$8.90

319 SW Washington St

Portland 4, Ore

Phone AX 2681

Mailing charge  
@ \$0.02 each \$5.12



# Donations for prizes

Larson Oil Co	\$3.00
CRPA	4 cases Palmer
Pascadden	3 pens Papermate
Rollie Trivitt	1 bx cigars - matches
State Laundry	bx's stocking repair kit
Pomeroy Florists	1 - potted flower
Wilson Shirt Shop	1 - sport shirt
Al Grumberg	3 - pair stockings
Joe Penner	3 - hair cuts
Oregon Seed Co	20 - pkgs seeds
Portland Fuel Elec Co	PA system
Dr Nellie Byrd	1 bx candy
Peter W Welch	Expense Deficit
Martin & Joe Brown	Use of cars



PERMIT FOR PICNIC

#90

Date April 24, 1953

Name of Park where picnic is to be held Laurelhurst

Date and Hours of Picnic August 16, 1953; 12 - 5

Estimated number of participants 125

Permit requested (if for any organization give name of same,  
and name and address of secretary, or other official in charge.)

Astorian's Picnic

- Valley #1

Peter W. Welch, Multnomah County Courthouse, BR 8441

Near comfort station

Special Privileges requested As most of these are old people,  
they would like to be as near the rest rooms as possible

This permit is issued in accordance with Ordinance No. 32929,  
which prohibits soliciting, vending, religious or political  
speaking, etc., nor is this permit exclusive.

Approved

H. B. Buckley

Superintendent of Parks *mt*

To Alve Sullivan

Foreman of Park

3554 SE Ankeny

Address

Empire 5526

Original permit to be mailed to person applying for same and  
copy to be mailed to Foreman of Park where picnic is to be held.



OFFICE OF THE SURVEYOR  
COURTHOUSE  
PORTLAND 4, OREGON

*Peter W. Welch*  
COUNTY SURVEYOR

Superintendent of Parks  
Portland City Hall  
Portland, Oregon

The Astoria Picnic Committee desires to make application for space in Laurelhurst Park on Sunday August 16, 1953 from Noon to 5 P.M. for the purpose of holding the annual Astorian's Picnic.

It is requested that the space allotted be within easy walking distance of the public rest rooms, as there are numerous elderly people in attendance who find it hard to walk any distance to the rest rooms.

It is expected that approximately 125 persons will attend the picnic and we would like to have tables and benches set up for that number of persons.

We wish to thank you for your past courtesy in the arrangements for previous picnics.

### Astorian's Picnic Committee

By: 00 6666  
Peter W. Welch, Chairman  
in charge.





# The CANADIAN FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY

HEAD OFFICE: WINNIPEG, CANADA

RAY SUMMERILL AGENCY, INC.

GENERAL AGENTS

HEAD BUILDING

PORTLAND 4, OREGON

A. R. JOHNSON  
RESIDENT AGENT  
REAL ESTATE AND INSURANCE  
1729 N. E. STANTON ST.  
PORTLAND 12, OREGON  
GARFIELD 8072

Portland, Oregon April 14th 1953.

Mr. Peter W. Welch

2806 N.E. 48th Avenue

Portland 13, Oregon.

Dear Peter

Well it is time to engage reservations in Laurelhurst Park  
For Astorians annual picnic. I am herewith sending copy  
of application I made in 1950, This year the 3rd Sunday  
in August falls on August 16th This is the date we have  
heretofore held the picnic , Always the 3rd Sunday so  
it is under stood.

Now Peter I know you have the executive ability and will  
put on a good show.

I have a list of those who donated prizes , also who furnished  
coffee and soft drinks I will give you their names .

By the way a number of people would like to have the location  
where we use to have it as they say it it was nearer the  
rest rooms And they say the location where we have had it  
in later years  
is pretty far to go WHEN THEY HAVE TO GO.

The Park Bureau will send you and park suprentendent copy  
of reservations

Mr Victor Luthe 1710 N.W. 24th Ave. Took charge of Soft drinks and Ice  
Phone # C A 4468

Coffee delivered to park by THE COFFEE KITCHEN phone Be 1927  
8 gals. coffee \$10.00 Included Cream and sugar, 50 cups 75cents  
24 spoons 36 Cents Total price \$11.11

A.R. Johnson

Peter please call me GA 8072





# The CANADIAN FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY

HEAD OFFICE: WINNIPEG, CANADA

RAY SUMMERILL AGENCY, INC.

GENERAL AGENTS

HEAD BUILDING

PORTLAND 4, OREGON

A. R. JOHNSON

RESIDENT AGENT

REAL ESTATE AND INSURANCE

1729 N. E. STANTON ST.

PORTLAND 12, OREGON

GARFIELD 8072

April 14, 1953

NAAMES OF DONATERS OF PRIZES FOR ASTORIAN'S PICNIC 1952 and PRIOR YEARS

POWERS FURNITURE CO 3rd Ave, and Yamhill ST. *Washover AT3161*

Wilson Shirt Shop 536 S.W. Broadway See Mr Mario Bisio Owner *AT4486*

Pomeroy's Broadway Floral 3724 N.E. Broadway (Ask for Seley Pomeroy) *GAIN 211*

Portland Seed Co Wholesale 109 S.E. Alder Ask for Mr. Trullinger Sr. Phone Ea  
he brings seeds with him or call for them. 2171

Mayflower Milk and cheese 2 pa cheese 2720 S.E. 6th Ave Ve 2138 or 2983  
ask for Matt Vetsch Charge of sales

Drs Dick Rick 1 box candy By Dr. Nellie Byrd 1927 N.E. 14 th Ave Portland  
Tr 9113

State Laundry 435 N.E. Broadway Tr. 1246 Ask for Mr. or Mrs. Carl Senn  
large box candy, repair kits, matches.

Astorian Daily Budget Astoria, Oregon 2 yearly Weekly subscriptions for Budget

Randall Reed (Shoe store) Astoria Oregon, 1 pair stockings.

July 30/51.

Dear Old Schoolmate:-

Just a  
line to, know off you  
are going to have a  
Picnic this year.

I may come down.  
Nellie just went back  
she spent 2 weeks with  
me.

Hope you are in the  
Best of Health

Bye Bye now.

Your Old Schoolmate  
Tilly



YOU ARE INVITED TO *Aug 19*  
Laurelhurst Park Portland 2 P.M. Sun. Please tell your friends.

A. R. JOHNSON, Committee  
GA. 8072

18 Sept. 51

"LAISSEZ FAIRE"

SAN RAFAEL, CALIFORNIA

1414 NYE ST

TEL 6468-W

Dear Al -

The picture  
of Ross' Opera House,  
Astoria '92 arrived today  
and I send you my most  
sincere thanks for your  
kindness. Really, we lived  
in a colorful old town,  
the like of which I have  
seldom met with after  
a fair experience of  
life and places. I am  
going to Astoria soon in  
the interest of the old Flavel  
House which must be  
preserved for itself.



and Astoria history and  
Collections appropriate there-  
to.

I had a boyish delight  
out of Astoria picnic  
1951 - the first I had ever  
attended - please God the  
same people are present  
next year - And I con-  
gratulate you upon your  
able handling of this annual  
event of such happy  
and interesting memories.

Sincerely

Louis (Fritz) Sovey

31 July

"LAISSEZ FAIRE"

SAN RAFAEL, CALIFORNIA

1414 NYE ST.

TEL 6468 W

52

Dear Al - Thanks for  
card. If I can will  
enough I shall surely  
attend at Laurelhurst  
Aug 17th, have not  
been very well for  
some time.

Nothing would give  
me more pleasure than  
to again meet dear  
old friend, whom I  
hold in such affection  
and high regard.  
Kind Regards. Fritz Sover



PERMIT FOR PICNIC

*Copy*

Date April 18, 1950

Name of Park where picnic is to be held Laurelhurst

Date and Hours of Picnic August 20, 1950; 12 M to 5 PM

Estimated number of participants 100 *Make for 125*

Permit requested (if for any organization give name of same,  
and name and address of secretary, or other official in  
charge).

Astorian's Picnic

A. R. Johnson, 1729 NE Stanton, GA 8072

Special Privileges requested Want near 35th and Oak St.  
entrance

This permit is issued in accordance with Ordinance No. 32929,  
which prohibits soliciting, vending, religious or political  
speaking, etc. nor is this permit exclusive.

Approved *Harry B. Buckley*  
Superintendent of Parks

To Alve Sullivan  
Foreman of Park

*Empire 5526*  
Address

Original permit to be mailed to person applying for same and  
copy to be mailed to Foreman of Park where picnic is to be held.

Copy  
Portland, Oregon; April 15, 1950

Superintendent of Parks;

City Hall;

Portland, Oregon.

Dear sir:-

We hereby apply for space in Laurelhurst  
Park near S.E. 35th Ave. and Oak Street entrance,  
August <sup>16</sup>~~20th~~, <sup>1953</sup>1950, from 12 M. to 3 P.M. for picnic  
known as Astorian's Picnic, <sup>125</sup>

We expect to have 100 persons attend and  
would like to have tables and benches for that number.

Thanking you in advance we are

Very Sincerely yours.

Astorians Picnic Committee

~~Mr. Johnson~~

~~Mr. Johnson~~

Mr Peter W. Welch  
in Charge



ANNUAL GATHERING OF ASTORIANS

At Laurelhurst Park, Portland

"I hear the tread of Pioneers  
Of nations yet to be,  
The first low wash of waves where soon  
Shall roll a human sea."

These lines were penned by a poet many years ago, an invitation to pioneers to move. Many residents of the eastern states heard the call and took the long journey across the plains to Oregon.

Some settled on the south shore of that large expanse of water, now known as Young's Bay, at the mouth of the Columbia.

These sturdy pioneers, with the help of their families, founded a substantial commercial city which they called Astoria, honoring the memory of that great fur trader, John Jacob Astor. Some of the descendants of these settlers later moved to Portland. The memory of many happy years passed in Astoria was green in their minds, and to preserve those pleasant recollections it became the custom to meet annually in Portland on the grounds of the lovely Laurelhurst Park.

This social gathering to cement friendship was sponsored by the two Johnson brothers, formerly engaged in business at Astoria. These brothers, men of fine character, had a host of friends who, to show their appreciation, elected Fred to the position of Mayor of the city.

The gates of the attractive park were thrown wide open and when a guest appeared crossing the portal, the brothers would

about a merry welcome. Fred Johnson in the role of presiding over a meeting is a past master, fluent of speech, rich in stories, which he puts over in a droll fashion that produces a ripple of laughter which surges through the audience. Among the early pioneers who landed on the uninhabited shore of the great river of the West was one W. H. Gray, a man of sterling character who raised a large family of excellent habits who did their full share in laying the foundation of a flourishing, prosperous state.

One member of this family, Will Gray, a grandson of W. H. Gray, a man highly esteemed by all, was present with his wife and sister and they added to the pleasure of the day by a cordial greeting of friends and acquaintances.

Another son of an early settler was George Ohler, a popular and prosperous business man of Astoria.

The Rev. Dr. Marcotte, who for many years was pastor of a flourishing church at Astoria, made a brief welcoming address in his usual happy style.

There were many others, descendants of early settlers, men and women of lovely personality, whom the writer would delight to mention, but to do so would be to consume too much space of a very valuable daily paper. The able publisher of the Astorian Budget will inform you that he has a duty to perform, which is to give the public all the important events transpiring throughout the world each day.



The weather on this occasion was on its good behavior. The sun riding high in the heavens dispensed to this humble planet in his orbit just the proper temperature. Just a few scattering clouds in the sky cast a shadow now and then which played hide-and-seek among the dense green of the shrubbery. "Old probabilities" has our gratitude and blessing for sunny skies on this delightful occasion.

---H. C. Thompson

Dear Fred  
I think the first line of the article leading up to the picture was not too clever, probably would have been better to read something like this  
... an estimated post paid  
the following line an ode to probability -  
The article ...  
...  
...

July 28, 1953.

Astorian-Budget  
Astoria, Oregon

Gentlemen:-

As you will note from the enclosed, those fine former Astorians who are now residents of the City of Roses will gather upon the third Sunday of August in Laurelhurst Park, for their annual gettogether.

In the past it has been the custom of the hometown paper to donate an annual subscription or two for some lucky individuals. These prizes of annual subscriptions to the Budget are cherished and highly prized by the recipients.

Someone put the "bee" on me at the last picnic to gather in these prizes for the picnic and I was wondering if you would be so kind, again this year, as to donate a subscription or two.

It would also be appreciated, if you could find it convenient to mention the picnic in your local columns upon an occasion or two, several days prior to this grand event.

We don't care how often you mention the picnic.

Very sincerely

Peter W. Welch

July 29, 1953

Hon. Thomas F. Sandoz  
Columbia River Packers Assn.,  
Astoria, Oregon.

Dear Tom:-

From the enclosed, you will see that some of the finest residents of the fair city of roses, who were former Astorians, will meet in their annual conclave for one of those good old "Do-you-remember" sessions.

This year they have put the "Bee" upon me to gather the spoils which are given away to the lucky ones who's names are drawn from the old black hat.

We always like to have a couple dozen cans of yiddish gold fish to spread around among those in attendance, and, remind them that A S T O R I A is still the salmon packing capitol of the world. Could we be so bold as to request of the C R P A, that they would supply us with this cherished prize which is so highly esteemed by all former Astorians?

If you would acquiesce in this respect and contribute this fine prize, you may send it along to me and it shall be my pleasure to say a few kind words in behalf of the C R P A --and yourself in person--upon the awarding of the prizes.

With kindest personal regards, I am

Very sincerely

Peter W. Welch



July 29, 1953.

Hon. John Osborn  
and also  
Hon. Marshall Leathers

Geard-hearts by the sea

Gentlemen:-

As you will note from the enclosed, the very best pipples in the fair city of roses, who were former Astorian's, will foregather upon the greensward in Laurelhurst Park, and there, with much joy and ebullience, will have one of those grand "Do you remember" afternoons of festivities.

Whereas, in the course of human events, it becomes necessary for some individual to be saddled with the more onorous duties pertaining thereto, it was judged that your very humble servant would have the "Bee" placed upon his brow, in order that he might go forth and chisel some prizes from those who would wish the symposium of the day to be a howling success.

Therefore, having cast about for a good excuse to place the "Bee" upon yon brows of Senors Osborn and Leathers, and, perchance, secure a contribution to be donated as a prize among said former Astorians, it was thought that an order for a nights lodging within the hostelry over which they preside would be considered by one and all, as a fine prize to be given to some weary traveller who might be induced to tarry longer than for the night and mayhap spend further of the funds with which said prize winner would be encumbered.

So, if you fine gentlemen would acquiese and make such a contribution, you may forthwith send it along to yours truly, and in making the presentation, a few kinds words will be spoken for the hotel and for the donors in person. If, you could be prevailed upon to be in attendance, I'm sure those who gather for the festive afternoon, would be filled with happiness and jubilation....

With kindest personal regards, I am

Very sincerely

  
Peter W. Welch

July 29, 1953.

Hon. Albert Grimberg  
Champion Shoer of the world----(horses)  
Grimberg's Shoe store  
Astoria, Oregon.

My Dear Albert:-

You will notice from the enclosed that Portland's finest people---All former Astorian's---will gather for their annual festive "Do--you--remember" party just a few weeks hence.

"Peter the Woocher"---thats me-- has been designated as the bird to put the "Bee" on anyone whom he thinks he can bamboozel into given a prize to be given away at the party together with some words of praise for the donor.---The advertising is free, providing we get something to give away at the picnic.

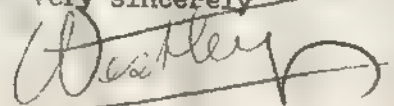
Now you could send us an order for a couple dozen pair of shoes and we would like that very much, but, if you thing that would be too much, you can send us an order on your store for a couple pair of stockings---or maybe a dozen pair od stockings, or, if your real hard up, we'll just take the sweepings from the room where you count your money,---we're not particular as long as you make a donation which we can boast about and tell the crowd what a fine shoe store you have.

Also,---If you cannot come up to be with us at the picnic, it'll cost you an additional prize to be given away to the lady who picked as the best looking lady over eighty years old. or,---if you insist---it will be given to Miss Yiddish Goldfish, whom we choose each year from among the scandinavian people who come to the picnic. Last year Miss Tomcod Flounder was chosen and she would not sit in the coronation chair, unless we would promise that we would fish for her off the O W R & N dock during the next Regatta.

Any diviation from the usual proceedure upon your part will be punished by a penalty, which may include our refusing you the privelege of joining our nudist colony. So send your donation prize to me post haste.

With kindest personal regards, I am

Very sincerely



Peter W. Welch  
"The 15th. Street Kid"

July 28, 1953

Mr. Peter W. Welch  
Portland, Oregon

Dear Mr. Welch:

Received the notice of the meeting of Astorians in Portland on August 16 and would like to attend but am detained in San Jose.

A few of us transplanted Astorians met July 12 at the Claremont Hotel in Berkeley for luncheon. Fritz Sovey was the genial host, and we had a charming time.

My father, David Morgan, went to Astoria in 1877 to operate salmon canneries. He bought a house that had been built by Bob Carruthers and the house was not new when father bought it. It still stands, 678 Jerome, but it is greatly changed. I was born in that house May 11, 1860, 1880

I wondered which Welch you were. I remember Billy Welch, John Welch, Dan Welch and their children.

I left Astoria in 1906 when I married and seldom go back, but have the fondest remembrance of the beautiful town seated by the sea.

Sincerely

Ahia M. Starry

Mrs. Clark Starry  
808 Villa Ave.  
San Jose, 26-



July 30, 1953.

My Dear May:-

It shall be my very nice privelege to read an excerpt or two from your nice letter, at the Astoria picnic in Laurelhurst Park. I'm sure there will be some there who will remember your family, even though the years have dimmed their memories.

I can very well remember the fruit trees in the Morgan's yard up on the "New street" as we used to call the street in front of the reservoir.---I think it is named Irving Street now... We kids would make raids on the fruit in your yard and I cannot remember your father ever chasing us away, as Uncle Billy Welch would do when we would get into his cherry trees.

And how well I remember the whitehall sailboat that your brother Dave had. I was one of his crew in a couple Regatta races and if my memory is correct, he won both times.... Dave was a good sailboat man and some times he would take the boat up Youngs River and we would make the trip through the waterways in the marshlands along Youngs river. Those were very exciting days for me as I loved to sail a boat and spending a day in the boat with Dave was something to be remembered.

You and I left Astoria at about the same time, though I have been back many times and my family---John Welch--moved away in 1908. I went off to sea for several years and followed the wireless game aboard ships and at numerous spots around the world. I think it was 1906 or 07 that Fritz and I were rooming together here in Portland. Fritz was then a telegrapher for the Postal and I was working as an inside wireman.

My older sisters Myrtle, Fanny and Pearl had gone off and married before then. My older brother, Creighty, had also left home before then. I think Creighty would be about your age, he is now living up in Seattle.... Fanny died in 1909 of T-B..... Myrtle and Pearl are living down near Long Beach Washington. They have homes near each other and have sort of gone into retirement.

I have a younger sister living near you at a place called Cupertino, she was named Valentine and her present married name is Nicholson, I doubt however if you would remember her as she was somewhat younger and only in grade school at the time you left Astoria. I have a son also living in San Jose. He married a San Jose girl a few months ago when he returned from the war in Korea.

Yes, Astoria is a nice place to remember as the old home town. There have been many times when I was travelling about that I had just lots and lots of fond memories of the salmon packing capitol of thw world. And the people I knew as a boy, all seemed to be such grand folks. It seems that in those days people were not as hurried as they are now. I think they had a much more enjoyable life when it was not so necessary to rush about to make an extra dollar or two.

Grandmother Nancy Dickerson Welch come to Astoria in 1846 and is credited with being the first white woman resident of the town, at least they have that upon her tombstone down at the cemetery. I do not remember her too well except as a little old lady who would take my brother Bob and me with her to pick strawberries which were plentiful in her yard. Grandma Welch died in 1893 or 94 at which time I was only four or five years old.... I do remember the funeral though. There were many teams parked up and down 15th. street and in front of our house on Grand Avenue while the grounds at her house were full of people during the services.

I can remember them saying that she has the largest funeral held in the town up to that time. I guess Grandma Welch was quite a lady in her day. She had the children to raise as her husband died many years before she did in the late sixties or early seventies. When they first come to Astoria, they bought the Shively donation land claim and the first John Shively went back east and married, then he come back and bought a half interest in the property.---at least thats the way it was told to me. After that the Welch's and the Shively's were always fussing and fuedin' about property etc; It's too bad that someone did not keep a historical record of the people and Astoria. There are some things which are of record and have historical value, but there are so many things which would be of such interest now, that some of the early history which is in error could be corrected.

Dolly Holmes---she was Bertha Welch of the Billy Welch's, did start to do something of the sort, but she died in 1920 and I've never heard of those things which she had intended to be made a historical record. Fritz Sovey has something in mind along the same line and has been gathering things which he intends to give to the Clatsop Historical society. He had a room in his house at San Rafael, which he called the Astoriana room. It was full of many things pertaining to 'storia....I gave him some things to add to what he has.. I hope to be able to get some other stuff for his 'storianana.

Whatever become of your brother Dave? Is he still among the living? I'd like to know and if he is, I'd like to write him.

I correspond with Bob McLean who is living in the Elks National Home at Bedford, Virginia... Bob cannot get about very well because of physical impairment of his legs. I think he spends most of his time in a wheel chair. But he likes to hear from his old Astoria friends and I'M sure he would be delighted to hear from you.

Last winter I stopped in Chehalis Washington and visited with Ernest Oberg. It was the first time I'd seen him since he went off to be a Seventh Day Adventist minister. We had a very enjoyable meeting and I promised I would stop by the next time I went through town.. He has now retired from his work and seemed to be in excellent health.

The last time I was in Astoria I went up to the old George H. George home and visited with Mrs Hulley VanDuesen and her sister Sadie Crang. One of the VanDusen girls was there at the time and I think it was Winnie---anyway it was the one who married Bert Allen. There are still a few living in our neighborhood, who were there when we were children.

Yes I remember your old home and its still there and looks about the same. Our old home is also still there and one time when I was

visiting around, I stopped in and asked the people who are living there if I could look through the house. They were very nice and allowed me to go all through the house. It was in this house that I was born and all of my brothers and sisters... I think that Grandmother Welch had the house built and gave it to my father when he was first married.. I think she did the same for Uncle Billey Welch and for Aunt Sarah Woods. At least that is the impression which I have now and it may be that it was told to me when I was a child....

All of the Wood's are gone now... Alice died in about 1924 and Gus died in San Francisco in the early 1930's....However Gus's wife still lives at their home out in the Richmond district of Frisco. I generally talk to her on the phone when ever I happen to be in town....

Of course you would remember Frank Woodfield. Well, he is still taking pictures and lives down on the coast someplace.---I think at Cannon Beach...Alvin Reed is still in Astoria and has just retired from his shoe business... Alvin married one of the VanDuesen girls.

I see Oswald West now and then.---at least I used to see him when we lived close together, but we moved a couple years ago and I've not seen him in the past year or so... However, I do see his articles now and then in the daily press.

'nother one whom I see now and then is George McBride.. George has had a couple strokes within the past year or so and is not in the best of health... His daughter called me a few days ago and said they were all coming to the Astoria picnic as it might be the last one George would be able to attend.

Mont Hawthorn was to the picnic with his daughter in law just a short time before he passed on...You must ask Fritz Sovey to let you read her book which she wrote from the stories which Mont told her of Astoria....Its very interesting....

No doubt you will remember George Stevens. He lived with his folks down near the Bowlbys on Franklin... He is still down there and I call on him when I have a chance to be neaf his house. He still lives on the same property but I think it is a different house from the old home....George was a surveyor, he used to work with Mr Tee and Mr Asbury and also with Gilo Parker... George was my first boss on a survey gang.

Georgie Ekstrom is still running a jewelry store, which her father had before her.. I always stop in to see her and her brother who is her watch repairman. They used to live on the corner of 15th & Franklin..... Fred Newell was in my office the other day, but I was out and missed him. Fred is working in a bank here in town. He waited until he was over 60 before he married. And his brother Benny who is my age has never married. Penny is with the Oregon State Tax commission just a few blocks up the street from me.

I guess I've about run out of gasoline May. I've enjoyed sort of reminiscing these few pages with a young lady, whom I always thought was a very beautiful young lady. A little older than me--Yes, but I like to remember her as I would see her dressed in her finery, going up and down 15th. street, where we kids used to play

Westley Welch



COLUMBIA RIVER PACKERS ASSOCIATION, INC.  
ASTORIA, OREGON

July 30, 1953

T. F. SANDOZ  
PRESIDENT

Mr. Peter W. Welch  
County Surveyor  
County of Multnomah  
Courthouse  
Portland 4, Oregon

Dear Peter:

I have yours of the 29th in connection with the Astoria Picnic.

We will be very happy to cooperate with you as in the past. It is my thought that rather than sending you just canned salmon, we will send you four - 1-dozen quarter-pound-can assortments of BUMBLE BEE Salmon, Tuna, Kipperd Sturgeon, and Smoked Salmon. After all, our fisheries are very diversified down here today, and I am sure that any former Astorian will enjoy all of these products.

With every good wish for a successful picnic and with kindest personal regards, I remain

Sincerely yours,

  
President

TFS:do

August 10, 1953

My dear Westley

Many thanks for your interesting letter of July 30. The names you mentioned brought back old friends, old times.

I remember your house very well, it was an old house when I was a child. When I think of Astoria I remember the houses better than the people. Creighty I remember, he had curly hair. A few years ago I had my piano tuned. I told the tuner the piano was bought in Astoria in the eighties. He said he married an Astoria girl, Valentine Welch. You said they live in Cupertino. Also that your son lives in San Jose, but you did not mention his name. When you come down this way be sure to call. With your family here you will be sure to come.

David has lived in Los Angeles for over twenty years. He has three children, his son David is about thirty seven and he has a grandson, also David. In fact David has three children and nine grandchildren.

His present address: 8010 Second Ave. Inglewood 4- California.

You are quite right about the early history of Astoria, a record should have been kept. The first inhabitants should have written down facts instead of fueding and fighting over property. There was no abstract kept until some time in the nineties. No births or deaths recorded until almost up to this century.

I have always been glad I was born in Astoria even though the Shiveleys looked down upon us as our family did not arrive until 1877 and we did not have much land.

Good luck for the picnic. Wish I could be there. Thanks again for your letter. I have often wished the old Astoria could be written up properly.

Sincerely

*Nice May Starny*



# The CANADIAN FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY

HEAD OFFICE: WINNIPEG, CANADA

RAY SUMMERILL AGENCY, INC.

GENERAL AGENTS

MEAD BUILDING

PORTLAND 4, OREGON

A. R. JOHNSON

RESIDENT AGENT

REAL ESTATE AND INSURANCE

1729 N. E. STANTON ST.

PORTLAND 12, OREGON

GARFIELD 8072

Portland, Oregon. August 3, 1953

Mr. Peter W. Welch

627 County Court House

Portland, 4 Oregon

Dear Friend-:

Herewith is statement of 1952 Astorians picnic  
Disbursements

Mr. Luthie (Victor) Soft Drinks-----	5.50
Coffee service Inc. Coffee, Cream, Sugar, Cups and spoons. Delivered to park -----	11.11
Registering Cards-----	.80
Postal cards-----	2.00
Postal stamps-----	.99
Cash on hand ( Counted by LOUIE HARTWIG----- \$23.07	
Disbursements -----	\$20.40
ENCLOSED Check herewith to Peter W. Welch -----	2.67
Collections counted by Hartwig -----	
\$23.07 -----	\$23.07

A. R. Johnson



# Journal

## Astorian's Annual picnic in Laurelhurst

Former Astorian's will have their annual picnic in Laurelhurst Park next Sunday from Noon to 5 P.M. The picnic grounds are in the "Valley" on the north side of the park where arrangements have been made to set picnic tables for an expected 300.

This years Astoria picnic will commemorate the 100 anniversary of the first frame house in Astoria which was shipped around the horn from Maine in the first clipper ship to enter the Columbia river. The house was erected as the home of the Welch family who had purchased the Shively donation land claim in 1846. In this house lived the first white woman resident of Astoria, Nancy Dickerson Welch, and here was born the first white child in Astoria. The chairman of the day at the picnic will be Peter W. Welch, grandson of the first white woman resident of Astoria. Arrangements for the picnic are by A.R.Johnson; Martin L. Brown and Alice and Olga Noe who promise their former Astoria neighbors an enjoyable afternoon with lots of free coffee, while holding their "Do you remember" get to gether.

# Oregonian

## Astorian's Annual picnic in Laurelhurst

Former Astorian's will have their annual picnic in Laurelhurst Park next Sunday from Noon to 5 P.M. The picnic grounds are in the "Valley" on the north side of the park where arrangements have been made for an expected 300.

This years Astoria picnic will commemorate the 100 anniversary of the first farm house in Astoria which was shipped around the horn from Maine in the first clipper ship to enter the Columbia river. The house was erected as the home for the Welch family who had purchased the Shively donation land claim in 1846. In this house lived the first white woman resident of Astoria, Nancy Dickerson Welch, and in this house was born the first white child in Astoria. Chairman of the day at the picnic will be Peter W. Welch, grandson of Astoria's first white family.

The picnic committee consisting of A.R. Johnson; Martin L. Brown; Alice and Olga Noe promise their former Astoria neighbors an enjoyable afternoon and lots of free coffee and soda pop during the "Do you remember" picnic party.

August 11, 1953

Hon. Allan Pomeroy  
Astoria's gift to Seattle  
County City Building  
Deattle, Washington

Dear Allan:

Last years Astoria picnic crowd honored me by electing me to rustle the picnic accoutrements etc; for the picnic this year. The enclosed will give you a rundown.

Today, former Astorian A.L. Johnson called on the phone and said he had a letter from a constituent of yours, Mrs Fricke of 1012 Queen Anne Ave., Mrs Fricke, also a former Astorian, informed Al that there were quite a gang of former 'storians, who are now sundodgers residing in the Queen city of Puget Sound, who were coming down to the picnic next sunday.

I was asked if I would send an invitation to His Honor the Mayor of Seattle, to join with other former Astorians who are coming down to Portland for the Astoria picnic, and to ask him if he could prevail upon his mother, Mrs Matt Pomeroy, to accompany him. Many of the people who attend these picnics are old neighbors and loved friends of your mother--and your father--they would be honored and pleased.

We would even permit you to make a speech upon our public address system at the picnic, providing you would contain your remarks to Dear old Astoria and tell us what a very wonderful city it was to be from, etc;

If you cannot find the time to join with us, could you send a word of cheer in the mail which could be read to this auspicious assemblage?

Sincerely

  
Peter W. Welch



ALLAN POMEROY  
MAYOR



CITY OF SEATTLE

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

August 13, 1953

Mr. Peter W. Welch  
Office of the Surveyor  
Court House  
Portland 4, Oregon

Dear Mr. Welch:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter which was received this morning, together with the bulletin of the Astoria picnic committee.

Your invitation is very much appreciated, but a little late for me to be able to attend. My mother is not feeling quite up to a trip at this time, and didn't believe that she could make the trip. It would have been a pleasure to have been present with many old friends of mine and of my family, but my schedule calls for me to make a speech at a gathering in Pierce County near Tacoma, Washington, at the same time as your picnic.

Please convey to all of our Astoria friends our most sincere greetings and tell them that one of the oddities which has occurred to me a number of times recently is that here I am participating in ceremonies celebrating the one hundredth birthday of our city of Seattle, when as an extremely small child I participated in the ceremonies in 1911 of the one hundredth birthday of Astoria. Our family goes to Astoria each Memorial Day to Ocean View Cemetery to visit the graves of my father and sister. On these occasions I frequently see former school friends from McClure and Shively schools.

Your bulletin states that Charles W. Robison, Assistant District Attorney, Multnomah County, is going to be your speaker and it also states his subject. It would be a pleasure for me to receive a copy of this speech since it would be enjoyable to include some remarks about Astoria in some of our speeches here during this Centennial occasion.

Thank you for offering me the opportunity to make a speech upon your public address system at the picnic, but it might not be wise to have two District Attorneys speak on the same program. Some former Astorians are more prone to speeches than others. Please give my greetings to all in attendance.

Sincerely yours,

Allan Pomeroy  
Mayor

AP:BB

7/24/53

Dear Pete; - received your  
announcement of the  
Picnic and as much as  
I would like to I can't  
promise I will be there  
as weather conditions  
may force me to work  
on that date, but if it  
is possible I will be there  
How is the job going, I  
wish you all the success  
in your job and hope  
you get selected when  
the time comes

I am as ever your  
old friend Dad

August 18, 1953

Park Bureau, City of Portland  
Portland City Hall  
Portland 4, Oregon

Attention: H.B. Buckley  
Supt. of Parks

Gentlemen:

Former Astorian's who are now residents of this fair city of Roses, gather upon the third Sunday in August of each year for what they call the Astoria picnic. This picnic is usually held in Laurelhurst Park.

Some 200 picnickers who were in attendance last Sunday in the Valley # 1 in Laurelhurst Park, approved a resolution expressing their thanks and commendation for the use of the picnic grounds and the manner in which they were treated and taken care of by Mr Alve Sullivan, Foreman of the Park and his assistants. Will the superintendent of parks please convey this vote of thanks to those who so graciously made the picnic such a grand success.

If it is not too early to make a reservation for 1954, may we ask that the same spot—The Valley #1, be reserved for the third Sunday in August 1954 and that arrangements be made for approximately 250 picnickers.

Again thanking you and your staff, we are

Very sincerely

Astoria Picnic Committee

by Peter W. Welch, Chairman



August 17, '53

Hon. Albert Grinberg  
Grinbergs Shoe Store  
Astoria, Oregon

Dear Al:-

Thanks a million for coming up to the picnic  
and thanks two million for the contribution of lady's hose. We all  
got a big kick out of giving away stockings which we didn't have  
at the time.

The winners were:

Eleanor Furney  
377 Taylor Ave.  
Astoria, Ore.  
(she will call for hers)

Mrs R.C. Pederson  
9320 40th. Ave N.E.  
Seattle, Wash  
( she wants size 10 and will you please  
mail 'em to her)

Mrs Howard Knight  
2320 S E Taylor St.  
Portland, Oregon  
( she did not give me the size, but I'd say  
about a size 9...Maybe you can guess better  
she was Anne McLean a sister of Bob who is  
now at the National Elks Home in Bedford, Va.  
Why dont some of you fellows drop Bob a line  
now and then---Its his only connection with  
the old home town.

Mrs Pederson is the wife of Lizzie Larsons brother---  
she used to be in our class at Shivelys---and he is a former mayor of  
Ketchikan Alaska... Lizzie's father had a saloon in the Foster building  
at about 16th. & Commercial.---Lizzie married Martin Brown.... Got her  
all straight??????

Be seeing you sometime soon.

Sincerely

August 17, '53.

Portland General Electric Co.  
621 S W Alder Street.,  
Portland, Oregon

Attention: Hon. James Gargan

Gentlemen:-

The use of your public address system at the Astorians picnic in Laurelhurst Park was highly successful and those in attendance were very pleased with the action of your company in supplying the equipment.

The writer was instructed by the gathering of former residents of Astoria, to communicate with your company and to express their thanks for the very gracious contribution to our most successful picnic.

If we may be so presumptuous as to impose upon you again on the third Sunday in August of next year, we shall again ask for the loan of the "P A" system. It is doubtful if we could have another successful picnic, without the use of a "P A" system. It sure does the job in a wonderful manner.

Again, thanking you and with our very best personal regards. We are

The Astoria Picnic Committee

  
Peter W. Welch, Chairman

## THE COFFEE KITCHEN

1307 S. W. JEFFERSON • PORTLAND, OREGON

ВЕасоп 1927

**For Meetings - Parties  
Picnics - Industry  
and Emergencies**

7# 5466

DELIVERY DATE

DELIVER TO

DAY

TIME

A M  
\_ P M

ADDRESS

PHONE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

BILL TO

ADDRESS

PHONE NO.

NUMBER OF PEOPLE TO SERVE

ORDERED BY

PHONE NO.

		PRICE		
10 gal	HOT COFFEE		125	1250
100-	CUPS		150	1500
	SPOONS			
	DONUTS			
	CAKES			
	SANDWICHES			
	OTHER FOOD ITEMS:			
SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:		TOTAL	1400	1400

**SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:**

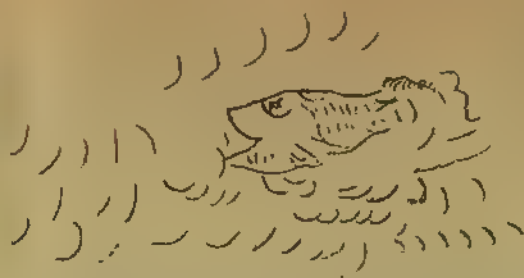
RECEIVED BY \_\_\_\_\_

ORDER TAKEN BY \_\_\_\_\_

FROM STORE NO.

DATE \_\_\_\_\_





# ASTORIA PICNIC-1953

Laurelhurst Park--Portland, Ore. Aug. 16.--Jest a rundown on the swell gathering of Astorians and former Astorians...There's no reason for writin' this, except an urge to write, and, "When yuh gotta go yuh gotta go". So, we gotta tell yuh about the picnic..Some of yuh missed it but there were well over 200 who had a scrumptious time n' left words to be passed to others who were not there.

Alf. Hammarstrom comes all the way from Los Angeles for the picnic an' then he gets orders to catch a train south jest as the picnic gets going.---Fritz Sovey was to meet Mattie Gregory Cherry, due in Frisco from Honolulu on Friday, Mattie wanted to make the picnic and Fritz sez he'll try to get 'em both up in time, but they did not quite make it. Ted Sutton sends word he could not make it but would sure make the next one. Jonnie Curtis sends word from Frisco that she was heart broken over not being able to get up. Harold Haynes the Astor Columnator should have been here, he really missed somethin'...

Al. Minard, Mrs Alma Fricki, Mrs Tom McCann, Wm. A. Swanson & R.C. Pederson with family's n' friends, come down from Seattle,--that was wonderful n' we love 'em for comin'..This feller Pederson--a former Astorian, has been mayor of Ketchikan. And speakin' of mayors, Allan Pomeroy, mayor of Seattle, is a son of Matt Pomeroy an old Astorian who was Clatsop sheriff after Tom Linville. Allan sent word that his mother was not equal to the trip, also he had a speakin' engagement over Tacoma way. They promised to make it next year...You know Allan is Astori's gift to Seattle to make Seattle a metropolis comparable to Portland---so give Allan a big hand...

From Astoria come Al. Grimberg; F.O. Berg; The Carlson boys, Louie, Monk, Otto & Jim; The Bill Becks; The Bill Fitzgeralds; Mrs Tom Davis; Erna Knutsen; The George Kruckmans; Albert Nelson; Betty Stangland; some Norblads; some Olsens; some Johnsons; some Swansons & some others with their family's & friends--if we missed mentioning some we're sorry, but we want 'em all to know we appreciate their travelling so far to be with former neighbors. Sure hope the third Sunday in August--next year, will see 'em all back with others who could not make it this year.

Of course the majority live in Portland n' will excuse us if we sorta pass 'em over to tell o' the picnic...Congressman Norblad--now a resident of Dayton for the summer--an' his family were here and mixed around,nibbling a piece of chicken here n' there as he greeted friends n' neighbors.---We gotta watch this young feller Norblad. He should be elected with ease next year--but the next time--he will be in line to make the big jump to the Senate. An' that is as it should be. He's an outstandin' Astorian, a native Oregonian an' a dan good republican...We haven't had an Astorian in the senate since Charlie Fulton was there in 1903--thats 50 years--we should have an Astorian in the senate at least twice in each century... Shall we put him there??

Our good congressman spoke of his pleasure in being home for a while and then he introduced the Hon. Charles W. Robison,who was our speaker of the day. Charlie made a wonderful talk and recited his original poem, "The Ghosts of Astor Street". It was a thriller n' we're having copies made so if any of you want one--let us know....

Tom Sandoz of the CRPA sent up 4 cases of "The best fish than which there aint none better"---Thanks Tom, hope you repeat next year..Portland General Electric supplied the public address system--Jim Gargan did that for us & it was a big help--we hope for another repeat on that next year. Rollie Truitt,baseball sports announcer--and--who--incidentally owns the cigar & gift store in the lobby of the Imperial hotel,gave us several announcements during his baseball broadcasts..Further'n that,he donated cigars, cigarettes,book matches & his annual sports book--More power to you Rollic.. N' if you picnickers wanta return the compliment, drop in n' make a purchase from Rollie. Thanks to Mario Rissio of Wilsons Shirt Shop on Broadway near Washington, we had some fancy sport shirts as gifts for lucky winners....

Free haircuts from Frank Penners barbershop in the Sovereign hotel. Frank sez,"It Pays to Look Well" n' he wants the Astoria crowd to "Always Look Well"..Hosiery from Al.Grimbergs shoe store--the lassies loved that..Hosiery mending kits from the State Laundry through Mrs Carl Senn..Flowers from Pomeroy's Florists through Selley Pomeroy were picked up quick by prize winners. From the Oregon Seed Co, through John Trullinger there were many packages of seeds and candy from Dr Nellie Byrd, Joe n' Martin Brown and George Larson of the Larson Oil Co... All in all we had almost 100 prizes. Maybe next year, If we can get a republican to take over Austin Flegels job, we can get an elephant from Siam.

(over)

Looie Cascadden, circulation manager of the Oregonian made a nice gift of some dandy  
 eversharp pens. Cass hopes we continue to read the Moaning Groanian an' also that we  
 have the right change ready when the delivery boy comes to collect each month..Leave  
 it to Cass to look out for his boys--guess thats one of the many reasons why he is  
the circulation manager---Cass is a nice young feller n' we all like him.

Almost 500 names n' addresses of Astorians n' former Astorians who've attended pic-  
 nics in Laurelhurst park are now in our files...Some have been coming for years--  
 repeaters--some, like Bill Grussi, promise for years to come n' finally make a showin'  
 when there is no ball game at Vaughan street...Bill made it this year n' now sez he's  
 gunna be a "repeater".---Os West sends word he cannot stand the gaff, but he sends  
 his best to one an' all, sez he has to stay close to home n' the fireside..."Spooks"  
 Jeldness sends a cheerio..Frank & Pete Johnson---sons of Albert who was supt. of  
 water works--send along a big "Hi-Ho"....Now don't forget to keep the third sunday in  
 August of next year open for the biggest and best Astoria picnic of the century...  
 We'll be seein' yuh.....

Astoria Picnic Committee  
 in the City of Roses & Bull Run water.

Printing

Mailing — \$6.00

282 @ 2 = 5.64

15 @ 3 = .45

Bulk 120 = 30

Aug-27-1953

Mr Ide = \$5.64

Portland 168

Astoria 57

Ore Towns 20

Wash. 20

Calif 14

Wash. & Ore 3

-282



PERMIT FOR PICNIC

#5

Date January 5, 1954

Name of Park where picnic is to be held Laurelhurst

Date and Hours of Picnic August 15, 1954; all day

Estimated number of participants 250

Permit requested (if for any organization give name of same, and name and address of secretary, or other official in charge)

Astoria picnic

Peter Welch, County Courthouse, Portland 4, Oregon, BR 8441

Special privileges requested Want to have valley #1

This permit is issued in accordance with Ordinance No. 32929, which prohibits soliciting, vending, religious or political speaking, etc., nor is this permit exclusive.

Approved H. B. Buckley  
Superintendent of Parks *mb*

To Alve Sullivan  
Foreman of Park

3554 SE Ankeny  
Address

Original permit to be mailed to person applying for same and copy to be mailed to Foreman of Park where picnic is to be held.

# A PIED PIPER STORY

---

## Astoria in the Gay 80s and 90s

---

AUGUST HILDEBRAND

Astoria, Oregon -o- November 1943

---

The press mentioning Pied the Piper and his rats—and attempted unsuccessful emulation of a certain musically inclined California band master—interested me very much—so that my memory was awakened as to certain happenings in the late 80s or early 90s of the last century, right here in Astoria.

---

Early Astoria was built on wooden piling over the Columbia. The waves of the river rolling under the buildings, driftwood logs bumping against the building foundations.

The heavily wooded, steep hill afforded but scant firm building sites, more expensive to prepare. Piling and lumber was cheap, and wooden homes and wooden streets

were in use. In 1883 there were only two brick houses; the old Carruthers residence on Exchange street between 14th and 15th and the I.O.O.F. business, bank, apartment and hall building—a three storied affair much more pretentious than the present one. All the offall and waste was swept direct into the waters of the Columbia through openings in the floors of the buildings, especially in the business part of the town, also horse stable and pigsty manure, with dead fish, Salmon stranded on the beaches, offall waste from 17 salmon canneries, grocery store sweepings (every grocer store kept a stock of animal feed). Cockroaches in the eating places were considered as rat food and for this reason rats were semi-tolerated to help exterminate the roaches. All

these conditions made Astoria, in those days, a paradise—for rats.

The first attempt to rid the town of rats was made by a certain "Pied the Piper" in those early days.

The second attempt for more sanitary conditions was a State law—enacted through the effort of the late James W. Welch, as representative, from Astoria, at Salem—to protect the Sea Gulls as valuable scavengers. This helped considerable.

The third, and most successful effort was made by the late mayor Wm. C. Logan, then a councilman, who was the father of the Astoria Seawall and fill of the mud flats project, under Astoria, as a sanitary problem.

An other incentive for more sanitary condition was a Bubonic scare, when all vessels, arriving from the Orient, were required by harbor laws to place rat guards on their hawseers.

This bubonic scare was the incentive to establish a quarantine station, across the river, where among others, at different times, Dr. Holt, Dr. Jay Tuttle, Capt. Jim Babbidge, Capt. John E. Haggblom, Thad S. Trullinger, Ole Eatoes, Joe Johansen and Frank Williams were the main personages for a number of years.

And now, of course, we have the vigilance of city Health Officer Dr. Nellie Smith Vernon, Vern Rierson of the Health unit for Clatsop county and Eugene Chadwick of the State Board of Sanita-

tion; to play the "Pied Pipers" of today.

The stench in Astoria, before these days of improvement, on a bright sunny day, augmented by rotting sawdust on the beaches from three sawmills (Trullingers, Kinneys and McGregors) refuse of the slaughter house of Bergman and Berry at Alderbrook with De Forces Oil factory around Smiths Point—was something to behold in memory. No wonder that the original, fresh Chinook wind was hailed with delight, coming from the Northwest, from the town of Chinook, Washington—across the waters of the Columbia. The meaning of this has changed in later years, and now, Chinook wind is known as a warm, snow melting south and southwest wind.

This combination of rat attracting conditions favored the 10th street location, between Bond and commercial for catching rats in traps—and subsequent sport of releasing the rats, on the street, for dogs to catch and dispose them to the delight of a sportive audience. Rat catching was a sport in those days.

Megler and Wright the genial proprietors of the old leading occident hotel—a hotel that was in line of advancement with any hotel on the coast; a hotel with large plateglass mirrors, crystal gas chandeliers and furniture of the, then modern heavy marble top design; where white gloved, black liveried negro waiters were in attendance; a hotel with a famed liquor bar and the equally famed



clam chowder pot where the nationally celebrities such as Henry Ward Beacher, Harry W. Scott and John L. Sullivan. The prizefighter were made to feel at home.

The upper veranda porch of the hotel was used as a rostrum from which public speakers, politicians and 4th of July haranguers were trying to sway public opinion.

Well, Megler and Wright were also the leading Rat Dog fanciers.

They had two full blooded Black and tan Rat Terriers. Black and Tans were the "Fashionable" breed of those days. They are a small, smooth haired, agile breed. The Occident hotel horse stable was located on 10th street where the Firestone Store is now. Every pretentious hotel had a horse drawn coach meet the steamer—and later the railway trains arriving passengers.

A. V. Allens grocery and feed store was located on 10th and Commercial, back, south of the hotel. The Black and Tans were very nimble, often they would toss the rat six to ten feet in the air. In the fall the rat was stunned and then torn to pieces by the dogs, who worked in team tactics; one tearing the rat one way and one the other. When one dog had the proper grip it was simply a matter of a severa shake and the rat was in rat heaven or h—.

Anson Allen, brother of A. V. Allen and Cariton. Allen was the owner of a large black New Foundland dog who would dispose of the rats, caught in the A. V. Allen

store. This New Foundland dog seemed to paralyze the rats with his size; he had no trouble to grab them dexteriously and with dispatch. Frank Dunbar was at that time head clerk at A. V. Allen. Speaking with him about the rat plague of those days, he told me of one instance: from a stack of boxes Galetta the rats had knawed a hole in the lowest, from behind and eaten the entire contents—entailing a severe monetary loss. Galetta is Italian ships hard bread, round biscuit like; baked in San Francisco; it was the staple fishermen and sailors bread of those days; later displaced by Biscotto—and now with the Scandinavian Rye Crisp.

By the way, in those early days, when Salmon were 25c and 50c, there were more Italian, Greek, Slavonian, Portuguese and Spanish fishermen in Astoria then today. Coming in the spring from the Sacramento river. (Wine and garlic a plenty), and over 2000 Chinese cannery workers. They are, today, displaced by the northern Scandinavian, and with them came that wonderful Viking dish "Lutefisk" yum-yum!

Foard and Stokes—an old renowned, general merchandise firm, also had a rat catching dog, known by every one by the name Jack, a black and white, hairy Scotchman—trained by James J. Stokes, who with Frank Patton, Alsea Fox, Nelson Troyer and a few others were the Astoria Bird Dog fanciers—another great sport—and, by the way Indian George, J. E. Beasley.

Emsly Houghton, Wm. Bock were the keepers of hounds for Panther, Wildcats, Elk and Deer hunting, another great sport in those days.

Well this "Jack the Scotchman" helped to keep the rat sport alive in the neighborhood of 15th and Commercial the site of the Foard and Stokes store. All this, with Sam Harris' Cockfights, at 9th and Bond—and an occasional local, national renowned, prizefight, kept the sporting element in an intensive mood. Also the sailor boarding house fights and street brawls enlivened the sporting scenes.

Well, the first Astoria Pied Piper arrived, and agreed to drive the rats from Astoria. He had a business head—went to the different merchants and offered, for so much cash, to rid the premises of rats. Many of the firms agreed. Among them was Foard and Stokes with whom I was employed.

I do not remember the amount of compensation agreed upon, but many of the Astoria firms readily agreed, as the monetary damage by rats was rather severe, even if the firms did not mind the sanitary situation as much as we today, when even the state and nation are stressing on sanitary measures.

The firm of Foard and Stokes was then located in the present Osburn-O'Brien building. The warehouse, a corrugated iron and wood construction affair, was a separate building in the rear, built on piling, over the waves of the river—and, this is the way Peter did his stunt:—

Like the children, in the Pied Piper's times, all the bosses, employees, customers and children present gathered to witness the performance. Peter the Piper led the procession to the warehouse. It was during daylight. The middle of the day. No sooner had he entered, through the door, a squealing was heard and presently a bewildered rat scampered on top of a row of feed sacks. Our rat catcher promptly grabbed the surprised rat by the neck, and with a deft turn of his fingers flung it, dead on the floor. The noise and squealing of scampering rats continued, one was getting away to an other corner of the warehouse, while another was covorting on the ceiling rafters, looking down at Peter with curious, beeding, bewildered eyes. We saw three rats and heard many more; the building was not rat proof, they could easily get away. Anyways, the direct result was one dead rat—and a riddance, for about a month or two, of all the rats in that warehouse. While going the rounds in this warehouse, our rat catcher placed, a vaseline like, substance, here and there on the feed sacks, walls and floor. He would not divulge what this was, but at a subsequent informal meeting, of the interested spectators, it was agreed that this substance was some preparation from the sexual organs of an animal, deadly and revengeful enemies of the rat—perhaps the weasel, owl, or such like. We could not smell anything, but perhaps the rats could and—departed.

# The New Finnish Zion Luth. Church

It gives me pleasure indeed to be able, June 14 1953, attending the Dedication Service of **The Finnish Zion Lutheran Church** of Astoria, Oregon. I heartily second the splendid editorial that appeared in the Astorian Budget of June 13th and it deserves repeating to fix it in your mind:

Hats-off today to the congregation of Zion Lutheran church, which by pluck, perseverance and hard work through the past five years has attained at last the dedication day of its fine new church building.

This congregation has struggled manfully to provide a building that adds dignity and beauty to the community, and will remain for many years a monument to the faith and devotion of those who brought it to being.

All Astorians have watched with interest the gradual development of this building, bit by bit, as the patient congregation labored away at a task that must have at times seemed impossible and unending.

And all of us have wished, silently perhaps, the best of luck to these patient workers whose devotion has won the admiration of all.

We feel sure that their perseverance will continue until the exterior of this building is completed in as handsome fashion as the interior, and the fine new auditorium where Sunday's dedication takes place.

The example set by this congregation might be a lesson to all of us. Never fear to start a worthwhile community project, difficult of attainment as it may appear! Work and faith will accomplish far more than we realize.

— So far the editorial — I may add: The developement of the different churches in Astoria has had my attention since 1883 — when with John E. Gratke and Wm. Gratke, who later founded the Budget, we attended a missionary Sunday School, conducted by a Rev. Gantenbein of Portland, in private homes.

Myself being born a lutheran — the different lutheran churches had a predominating influence on me.

Yet, the different other Protestant and even the Christian Science, Catholic, Jewish, Adventist and Mormon Churches share in the honor: combatting evil, degrading, earthly influences.

However there is a vast field ahead for all combatting these evil, degrading, earthly influences with kindly, spiritual, elevating Religious endeavors — and, grant God, that the **Finnish Zion Lutheran Church** be dedicated to this elevating endeavor.

AUGUST HILDEBRAND, historian  
Astoria, Oregon





## Keep Oregon Green and the Campsites Clean!

At a recent meeting of the **Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs**, the following report was brought in by a member who returned from a European trip:

"In Switzerland we were especially impressed with the work of the Swiss League for the Preservation of Nature. Each year they have a campaign selling chocolate discs, the proceeds from which go to the preservation of some cherished bit of Swiss landscape. While we were there the plan was for the restoration of the dignity of the Rigi-Kulm. It seems that fine viewpoint had been cluttered up with the Swiss equivalent of hot dog stands, etc., and the plan was to buy them out and wipe the landscape clean—thus restoring its dignity. Small boys and girls, men and women all over Switzerland participated in the campaign.

"In Austria, we were especially impressed with the fine work being done by the junior section of The Österreichischer Alpenverein. We went with them on some of their climbs and were delighted with their wonderful sense of comradeship, and with their amazing courtesy to each other and to other boys and girls we met along the train. The total absence of "horsing around" was astonishing. Their knowledge of their own country was so much greater than that of our American boys and girls about our country. In every way they seemed so much better educated, so much happier, and so much better adjusted than our boys and girls. Considering the frightful crisis they have been through and the tragic economic situation of Austria, this last quality seemed difficult to account for.

"The cleanliness of the trailside and the areas around alpine huts in both Austria and Switzerland was truly astonishing to us.

"Shortly after our return, a boy recently arrived in the U.S. from Austria came to visit us one weekend. When we walked down to the little lake below our place and he saw the litter of beer cans, watermelon rinds, comic papers, etc., etc., he turned to me saying, "But Mr James I thought only the Barbarians (the Russians are the Barbarians to the people of Austria today) did this sort of thing!" We were embarrassed!"

**The Astoria Angora Hiking Club** is a member of this Federation, which emphasizes the cleanliness of campsites, viewpoints and public meeting places as well as **KEEP OREGON GREEN**.

This is simply published to remind the public!

AUGUST HILDEBRAND,

Member of the Astoria Angora Hiking Club.  
Astoria, Oregon, December, 1952.

Second Edition June 1st, 1953

Because of the numerous acknowledgements received the public apparently appreciated the sentiments expressed. So—speed and spread it.—A. H.

## HILDEBRAND &amp; CO.

## FURNITURE

RANGES, HEATERS, RUGS, LINOLEUM, SHADES, BEDDING

HOUSEWARES AND ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES

ASTORIA, OREGON

Sept 17-53

Peter W. Welch

627 County Court House

Portland &amp; Oreg -

Dear Sir: - I am in receipt of your Astoria Pic Nic 1953 folder. For which please accept my thanks - I would have attended - but other urgent happenings prevented it - but so God wills I shall try 1954 - - -

I know pretty nearly all the persons you mentioned and also the honored Chas W. Robison. In this folder you mentioned his original poem "The Ghosts of Astor Street". Should you have a copy of this poem, I shall be pleased to receive one - and add it to my collection of ancient sailor ditties in my Astoria history.

Enclosed please find a few stamps to cover postage.

Respectfully yours

August Hildebrand,

Astoria

Oreg.

# *Southern Pacific Company*

IN REPLY PLEASE REFER TO

Hollywood, Calif.

Sept. 3, 53

Dear Wes:

Your report on the picnic sure made me homesick. I sure tried this time as well as last year.

I called you Saturday from Clackamas as I said I would to see if you were in. As no Auto wanted to be sure.

Sunday AM I had the Grussie's drive me out to the park, but too early. My train left at 12.45 PM a TOURIST SPECIAL. (this was on S.P. expense account) Sure had a wonderful week in Astoria and Long Beach.

As I am about to go on my pension I am not missing ~~any~~ any ~~ones~~ ones. Sure was nice to talk to you. I called the Knight's and they said they were going to the picnoc.

Your pal,

*ack*

Seattle Washington  
Sept. 2 - 1953.

Peter W. Welch  
627. County Court House  
Portland 4 - Oregon

Dear Mr. Welch.

Many thanks for your rundown  
report on the Astoria Travel which  
I recd. yesterday

I feel that you should be congratulated  
for the able and masterfull manner in  
which you have taken over the affairs  
of this annual gathering of old time  
Astorians. I feel that the last picnic  
was the finest that I have attended so far.  
There has been larger attendance before, but  
there seemed to be a more friendly like  
spirit among the folks. This year than  
ever, <sup>known</sup> which I feel was due to the  
way things were conducted by yourself.  
If this report reaches the hands of  
all the absentees, that you have in  
your files, it will stimulate a new  
spirit among the old timers and the  
picnic will draw larger crowds and  
become a big annual event.

Yes I would like to have a copy of  
Charlie Robinsons address, With kindest  
personal regards I remain Truly yours  
H. M. Mearns



COLUMBIA RIVER PACKERS ASSOCIATION, INC.  
ASTORIA, OREGON

July 29, 1954

T. F. BANDOZ  
PRESIDENT

Mr. Peter W. Welch  
County Surveyor  
Courthouse  
Portland 4, Oregon

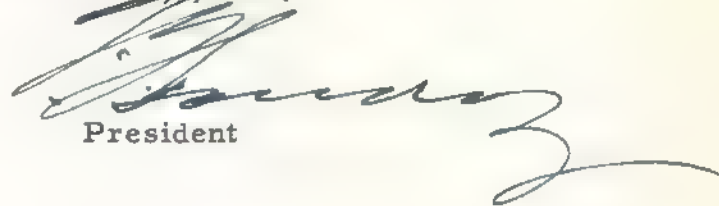
Dear Peter:

I have your letter of July 27th advising of the annual reunion of Astorians which will take place next month.

We will be very happy to donate a case of our BUMBLE BEE assorted seafoods for this occasion. I am ordering a case shipped to you in care of your office address.

I wish all of you a most happy gathering.

Sincerely yours,



President

TFS:do

July 27, 1954

Hon. Harold Haynes  
The Laird of Olney Valley  
449 Duane Street  
Astoria, Oregon

Yer Highness:

Now comes one pestiferous and loquacious former denizen of the mud flats of scow-bay, seeking in the name of former Astorians now residing in the City of Roses, publicity, to the effect that these former Astorians will hold forth in beautiful Laurelhurst Park upon the third Sunday in August, as has been their custom for many years past.

Usually there are some three or four hundred former Astorians, their friends and neighbors, together with a sprinkling of present residents all Astorians who foregather for an afternoon of reminiscences and "Do you remember" talks, as well as seeing that everyone present gets their fill of choice vizas, pop, coffee and famous Bull Run water.

This year, invitations have been forwarded to many prominent former Astorians such as Allan Pomeroy the incumbent mayor of Seattle and his mother Mrs Matt Pomeroy the widow of a former Clatsop county sheriff, The entire Oregon delegation in congress who are seeking re-election, as well as the local political aspirants who wander about parks seeking the elusive vote and a free handout.

Also, there is the proposition of having a few prizes to give to those who are lucky enough to have their names drawn from the old chapeau. It might be well to inform the merchants of Astoria that there will be a delegation wait upon them, in an effort to secure donations to be given away with their compliments. If there are any old fashioned fur-lined cuspidors---the kind which used to grace the front bar of pre-prohibition dispensaries of liquid libations of the hard cider kind---these could be used to good advantage. We'll be down to pick them up...

We expect Al Minard down from Seattle and Fritz Sovey up from San Rafael. Frank Johnson and Captain Erikson from the city of Angales. Of course there are many present Astorians, without the party could not be a success and we would expect them to inaugurate an Astoria caravan to be in attendance.

Pass the word along Harold that this years Astoria Picnic is going to be the biggest and best ever and try to come up yourself. Bring your wife and a jug of that good old Saddle Mountain dew. We'll pay the federal tax to make it legal.

Sincerely

Pedro.

July 27, '1953.

Hon. Thomas F. Sandoz  
Pres. C.R.P.A, Inc.  
Astoria, Oregon

My Dear Tom:

Once again, upon the third sunday in August and at beautiful Laurelhurst Park in the city of Roses, former Astorians will foregather in a good old fashion "Do you remember" party and picnic. Also, once again, your humble servant has been designated as the "Moocher" of the day to prevail upon all and sundry for prizes and gifts to help make the day more enjoyable to those in attendance.

You have been so kind as to donate some of your products for past picnics and last year you sent up an assortment of BUMBLE BEE Salmon, Tuna, Kipperred Sturgeon, and Smoked Salmon in quarter-pound cans. The lucky prize winners were given a can of each and there have been many splendid comments upon how much they enjoyed the fish. I feel confident all Astorians up here request BUMBLE BEE brands when they go shopping for such delicacies.

May we again put the "bee" upon the producers of BUMBLE BEE for the annual Astorians picnic and may we also extend to you and other "Old Timers" down at the Kinney cannery a most cordial invitation to join with us upon this auspicious occasion to renew friendships and reminiscences of the old home town. I'm sure it would be a most enjoyable afternoon for all of you.

May we also extend to you farmers of the seas and waterways, the hope and prayers for a bountiful harvest.

Sincerely

Peter W. Welch

5

July 27, 1954

Republican County Central Committee  
Central Building  
Portland, Oregon

Gentlemen:

The enclosed post card notice which is being mailed out today to some 400 former Astorians residing in and about Portland is self explanatory.

As the chairman of the picnic committee and the M O C it would be my pleasure to introduce to the gathering, any strangers, stray cattle or political candidates who might wander within hailing distance of the annual Astorians picnic while they are assembled. It would also be my pleasure to promise any and all lost or wandering political candidates a sumptuous and filling picnic lunch between Noon and One or One thirty P.M.--after that they would have to fill up on pop and coffee, of which there will be plenty.

It was the writers' thought that there might be republican candidates who would wish to ingratiate themselves with this fine group of the electorate of Multnomah county and this would be a splendid opportunity for such an undertaking. Anyway it shows I'll do what I can to get the rest of the gang a vote or two towards a glorious republican victory in November.

Sincerely

Peter W. Welch



July 27, 1954

Hon. Walter Norblad  
House Office Building  
Washington, D.C.

My Dear Congressman:

Once again it becomes my pleasure and privelege to extend to you, in the name of former Astorians, a most cordial invitation to join with us upon the third sunday in August, in beautiful Laurelhurst Park in the City of Roses, County of Multnomah and the grand old State of Oregon, at the annual Astorians Picnic.

The enclosed post card will give you the needed information as to the Time, The Place---but---you will have to bring you own girl. Howsomeever, we will guarantee to you and yours, a bountiful and sumptuous picnic feed, together with lots of joyful,friendly and neighborly reminiscences and "Do you remember" sessions. Also we might talk a little politics.

It is sincerely hoped you will be out this way at that time and that you can come with your family. With our very kindest personal regards and salutations, We are

Sincerely

Astoria Picnic Committee

Peter W. Welch,Chairman

July 27, 1954

Hon. Allan Pomeroy  
Mayor, City of Seattle  
City-County Building  
Seattle, Washington.

Dear Allan:

Once again, Your Honor, I have been requested to extend to you and to your dear mother, salutations and greetings in the name of former Astorians now living in the beautiful City of Roses and to invite you, your family and Mrs Matt to join with us upon the third sunday in August in Laurelhurst Park in Portland at the annual Astorians Picnic.

The enclosed post card notice informs you of the time and place. It would be a privelege and a pleasure to renew friendship and to reminisce in a good old fashion "Do you remember" session with you and your mother.

Usually, there are upwards to 300 former Astorians who foregather upon this auspicious occasion and many of them are old friends of your mother and father. It would give us great pleasure to have you with us this year as our memories of those dear old grand days in Astoria at the turn of the century, are about all we have left to buoy up our memories of the past.

May we hope, Your Honor?

Sincerely

Peter W. Welch

Aug. 11, '54

Rev. Ernest Oberg  
Chahalie, Washington

My Dear Ernest:

Fuzzy Ferland just called me of the phone and asked if I had sent a notice of the Astorian's picnic to you for this year..... Sorry, but for some reason I had misplaced your address and neglected to do so... Fuzzy then suggested that I drop you a line and tell you we would have the picnic this coming Sunday, beginning at Noon and ending when everyone was tired of talking and talking and "Do you remembering"?

It would be wonderful if you could come down and join the annual gathering... We gather in Laurelhurst Park at the Laurelhurst Street entrance on Ankeny street. It is close to the comfort station on the north side of the park....I know there will be lots of folks whom you have known as a boy... The Noe girls,--Olga and Alice--are generally there and Fritz Sovey has promised to come up from his home at San Rafael Calif... Al Minard generally comes down from Seattle and Dan Belcher and Jennie Curtis as well as Birdie Winton also make their presence known.

Some of the Trullingers always show up and it is not unusual for some of the Higgens and Cordiners and Stanglands and numerous others to make an appearance... There is no need to bring any food as we always have all Portland residents bring plenty of extra food so that those from out of town can get their fill.. We like it that way and sometimes old friends meet and eat together who have not seen each others in years and years...

We would just love to have you visit with us Ernest if you can make it and I can promise you, you will see many of your old time neighbors and friends... I was talking to Georgia Ekstrom in Astoria the other day and she promised to be up this year...It's always on the third Sunday in August in Laurelhurst Park and a good time is had by all...

May God be with you,  
Sincerely

Westley Welch

1954 Prize donations for the  
ASTORIAN'S PICNIC

Hotel Gearhart--by John Osborn	2- Swimming Pool tickets 2- Horseback ride tickets
Erickson Floral Co., Inc. 573 Commercial St. Astoria	1-\$5.00 Merchandise order
Reed & Grimberg--Home of Floreshhim shoes 558 Commercial St. Astoria	2- pair Women hose order
Shaner & Co----Good Jewelry 477 Commercial St. Astoria	1-\$5.00 compact
Columbia Travel Bureau-Floyd C. Foster 438 Commercial St. Astoria	1-\$5.00 in trade on Air ti
Frank Porter Furniture Co Cor. 10th. & Commercial St. Astoria	1-\$3.00 in trade
Al Crohn--Gent's furnishings 452 Commercial St. Astoria	1--Sport shirt
Ekstrom's Jewelers--Lloyd & Georgia Cor 9th, & Commercial St. Astoria	1-\$5.00 order in merchand
Burke's Men's Store 509 Commercial St. Astoria	1-\$2.00 order good for 1
Astoria Hardware Co. Joe J. Leahy 532 Commercial St. Astoria	1-\$5.00 trade order.
The Fur Trader by Edward J. McNally John Jacob Astor Hotel, Astoria	2--\$3.50 Steak dinners
Columbia River Packers Assn, Inc by Thos F. Sandoz, Pres. Astoria	1-Case asst'd Bumble Bee sea foods--48 cans
Soverign Barber shop--Frank Pehner Soverign Hotel---Portland	5--\$1.50 haircuts
Al. R. Johnson 1729 N E Stanton St Portland	2--\$150 Bxs of candy
Joseph P. Brown Thurlow Glove Co 100 N E Union Ave	1- pr \$5.00 Doeskin glov
Peter W. Welch, 627 County Court House	The deficit
Wilson Shirt Shop Broadway at Washington	1--Sport shirt



## PUBLICATION DEPARTMENT

## NATIONAL INSTITUTE of PUBLIC EDUCATION

368 CONGRESS STREET

BOSTON 10, MASS.

Francis Clay Harley

Director

Edgewood, R.I.

Aug. 11/54

Peter W. Welton Chairman  
Astoria's Annual Picnic  
627 County Court House  
Portland 4, Oregon.

FRANCIS CLAY HARLEY  
164 NORWOOD AVENUE  
EDGEWOOD 5, R. I.

My Dear Welton:

Thanks a million for your invitation,  
and you can rest assured nothing would give me more  
pleasure could I get there and meet some of the old  
timers who are still PROHIBITIONISTS as you no doubt  
remember that Oregon was still BONE DRY when I thru  
my HAT in the ring as the first Candidate for GOVERNOR  
in the U.S. as a WET. Now I learn that you all are  
WETTER than the WEATHER. And the State has become the  
Pedlar of the worst curse Oregon ever could have adopt-  
ed. Anyhow if you do have any of the Red Eye on tap  
have one on me. As to the BEER be carerul or your  
calories, they can make it now over night. Again with  
thanks for your invitation, and looking forward to  
being able to make another trip to the place where my  
heart still lies.

Sincerely

Francis Clay Harley.

# THE MARCH of EVENTS

—By Benjamin  
DeCasseres

Francis Clay Harley, of the National Institute of Public Education, has gotten out a book that I'd like to place in the hands of every American — "The Key to the Constitution of the United States."

In the most attractive form, illustrated, it contains the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, Washington's "Farewell Address," Lincoln's "Gettysburg Address," the story of the Bill of Rights, and an expose of Nazism, Communism and Fascism.

It is a booklet you can slip in your pocket. It is arranged as if we were all school-children, as, indeed, we are, for most of us must go back to the schoolroom at Sixth and Chestnut streets in Philadelphia (Independence Hall) if this Republic is to endure.

Mr. Harley's book ought to be in every school and in every household from coast to coast.

It's the immortal story of the greatest experiment in LIVING DEMOCRACY ever undertaken on earth — the U. S. A.

THE KEY TO THE  
CONSTITUTION OF THE  
UNITED STATES

Self-cover 35 cents

DeLuxe Bound 75 cents each

## THE KEY to the CONSTITUTION of the UNITED STATES

READ THE VERDICT OF EDUCATORS, TEACHERS, STUDENTS,  
LAWYERS, CITIZENS, PULPIT AND PRESS

Their approval and commendation we feel speak for themselves; there is nothing we can add thereto.

*Acclaimed By All Who See It*

### EDUCATORS

LATE ALBERT BUSHNELL HART, Professor of Government Emeritus in Harvard University.

"I am under obligation to you for your annotated, illustrated, and docketed copy of the Constitution of the United States. It is a very ingenious production and should be widely disseminated, especially among the schools, for it brings out very distinctly what might be called the 'impotence' of the Constitution taken by itself."

CORNELIUS DEENEY, S.J., Santa Clara University, California.

"This booklet of fifty pages is a little masterpiece. Rarely indeed has the text of the Constitution been made so attractive and so easy to understand. The illustrations are very apt.

"I am sure the perusal of this booklet will develop a strong affection for the Constitution in the hearts of all the young Americans that are fortunate enough to receive a copy."

DR. AUBREY A. DOUGLAS, Chief, Division of Secondary Education, State of California.

"The form in which the text is arranged, with its marginal notations, illustrations and paragraphs of comments, should appeal to anyone and especially to high school students."

### TEACHERS

GUSTAVE A. FEINGOLD, Ph.D., Principal, Bulkeley High School, Hartford, Conn.

"The Key" is very attractively drawn up and is an excellent guide to the Constitution. I am sure, will be of value in developing the spirit of democracy and love of country among many of our students."

BRO. A. EDWARD, F.F.C., La Salle Academy, Providence, R. I.

"My personal opinion and that of the faculty is that your little book has done more for promoting an intimate knowledge of our Constitution than any other agency. It is indeed gratifying to learn from the students the great amount of interest shown by the parents when THE KEY arrived home.

"At present our fourth year classes are using THE KEY as a guide in an intensive study of the Constitution. The simplicity, well-pointed illustrations and marginal notes have made interesting to the students the vital cord binding together our glorious nation."

PAUL O. LIBBEY, Head of Social Studies Department, New Haven Commercial High School, New Haven, Conn.

"I would like to say that a study of the Constitution has always been a part of our course in American History and our American History and Civics textbooks have the Constitution in the appendix of each book. However, this booklet has been so attractively prepared that all the teachers in the Social Studies Department agreed that it was a distinct contribution to the study of the subject for which it was intended."

### LAW

LATE CHIEF JUSTICE WILLIAM H. WASTE, Supreme Court of California.

"The booklet, 'The Key to the Constitution', It is full of significant things concisely told, and I am glad to place it where it will be ready for quick reference."

THOMAS J. HARKINS, Harkins, Van Winkle and Walton, Attorneys, Asheville, N. C.

"I have reviewed this publication and wish to compliment you on its contents. The author of this document has succeeded in drawing a very vivid picture of the Constitution and one that can be easily understood by a person of average education. I am sure that a wide dissemination of this publication will bring an understanding of the real spirit and genius of the Constitution to a large number of people who have heretofore regarded it as a thing too technical to be understood by the average person."

JOHN FRANCIS NEYLAN, Attorney, San Francisco, California.

"I wish a copy of it could be put in the hands of every salaried and wage-worker in America, with their attention directed to what they would be deprived of under Communism, Fascism or Hitlerism."

**NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC EDUCATION**  
**368 Congress Street**  
**Boston, Massachusetts**

## EDITORIAL COMMENTS

**Boston Herald**

READ IT AND REJOICE

How much does the average American know about the constitution under which they live? When did you read it last? Indeed, have you ever slowly and meditatively read it through at one sitting? Could you place your hands on a copy of the great document in your own home?

The constitution can be read in a very few minutes. There is no better example of much in little. It is not dry reading, for one of the last things done by the constitutional convention was to appoint a committee on style. Most of the work was done by Gouverneur Morris. What we now have is a short, clear, and superficially simple document which has earned the admiration of scholars everywhere and yet can be understood by a schoolboy. The great achievement of the framers was the reconciliation of power with liberty, the establishment of an efficient central government without the extinction or absorption of state government, through the device of that federal system which has been widely copied.

Gladstone's well-remembered saying might convey an erroneous impression. The constitution was not "struck off" as though by inspiration. Its makers toiled enormously at their task.

Whatever induces people to familiarize themselves with the constitution is worthwhile. The attractive booklet "The Key to the Constitution," written by Francis C. Harley is excellent for the manner in which type, color and illustration are used to catch the attention of young and old.

**Boston Daily Record**

"The Key to the Constitution." This book tells the real meaning of the Constitution and its amendments. It points out the rights of the individual. It also points out the perils under Communism and Fascism.

The book will make splendid reading for our school boys and girls and will be a valuable offset to the Communist literature which radicals have been passing out to our youth.

**Foxboro Reporter**

FOXBORO, MASS.

"THE KEY TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES." Its format is excellent, its illustrations pertinent to the text, and all the information is immediately accessible, eliminating any necessity of tedious reading and thought to interpret the sense of the various Constitutional provisions. A short perusal of the volume leads to the conviction that one should be in the hands of every citizen.

"We hope that 'The Key to the Constitution of the United States' will find its way into every school room and on every library table. The information which it contains is easy to understand, and should be in the minds of all our citizens who believe in our type of government."

Manaimo B.C.

Aug. 5. 54

Dear Pat.

Received your circular  
Card. but am sorry  
I can't make it this  
year, but probably  
next year.

Give all the Astorians  
My best wishes &  
the best of health  
as that is the best  
we old timers  
can expect.

Hope you are in good  
health. As ever your  
old Fish eating friend.  
Lanie Hastwig

L.C. Hartwig  
2050 Departure Bay Road  
Nanaimo, B.C.  
Canada



716 N. Irving Blvd.

Hollywood 38 Calif.

Dear Westley

I received the letter telling all about the Astoria picnic. I enjoyed reading every word of it, and I want to thank you a million times for mailing me one of them. Capt Erickson a retired Capt. of the light house service who spent most of his life in Astoria lives just a few blocks from me. so I gave him the letter to read and he told me to thank you

Westley if you have a copy of "The Ghosts of Astor Street" kicking around. I would really be happy to receive a copy. Capt Erickson

would get a kick out of it. He did  
all of his fancy work at The Gordon  
House! Maud Morrison! But he  
knew all of old timers on Astor  
St.

I haven't run into Alf. since he  
was up in Astoria. but I will see  
him one of these days. He retires  
next month. and plans on living  
in Mexico.

I am in good health and going  
strong. and I know you are  
doing O.K. next year I will try  
and get up that way. and spend  
some time with you guys and  
gals from Astoria. give my best  
to every one up there.

your old pal,

Frank A. Johnson

Astoria, Oregon  
Sep 12 - '53

Dear Mr. Welch: -

Thank you for your most interesting letter which I received this morning.

I do remember the old opera house and attended plays etc., there several times.

We miss Otto very much, he passed on a year after my own Fred passed on, both died of cancer. Fred was only 50 years old. Since then, I have worked in our local Post Office and am a regular clerk in the stamp window presently.

Have been employed here for almost 9 years and feel very fortunate indeed, to be around such wonderful people, including Bill Wilson, Gus Carlson and others.

Neil Mayhitt is our acting P. M., and Don Acton (John Acton's younger son) is assistant P. M.

Helga and Sylvia are widowed, and living in Seattle.

Sylvia was married to Oscar Wirkkala who was vice pres. of C. R. P. A. during Mr. Thompson's regime - She has a daughter 16 years of age.

I have 3 sons so the Erickson goes on. <sup>name</sup>  
My brother-in-law, Walter, is living in the old family home and has no children - and still another brother, the crippled boy, Ed is living with me - in the other old house next to Walter -

I'm going to visit my son in L.A., and expect to see Lou Roman whom you probably remember as well as some other people, who will get a kick out of the poem, if you'd be kind enough to send me a copy.

On my last visit there 2 years ago, I was invited to a dinner and met Anna Bay, and her husband, a lovely gentleman, who knows nothing of her past. They live in Santa Monica.



apartment. She is very domesticated,  
was cleaning the refrigerator  
when we walked in -

Her husband is a Charles Gottlieb  
and is in lithograph business, a  
really nice man and they seemed  
happy.

Hope I haven't bored you with  
my poor writing and want to thank  
you very much for your interest.

There are others in the office, too,  
who will like to read the poem,  
we can make copies -

Envelope enclosed with my  
Calif. address

Yours truly

Hilda M. Erickson

(Mrs. F. C. Erickson)

825 N. 15

Salem, Ore

Sept. 2, 1953

Dear Sir:

My Mother and I were so sorry we had to miss the Astorian picnic and we surely enjoyed your news reel of it, thanks so much for sending it.

We hope to get to the picnic next year for sure, we lived in Astoria from 1904 until 1914 and have many friends there yet.

You mentioned having copies made of the poem, "The Ghosts of Astor Street" and would appreciate having a copy.

Yours truly

Erne Waters  
(Mrs. E. V. Waters)



225 HYDE ST.  
SAN FRANCISCO  
Wednesday Afternoon  
September 3, 1953

Dear Mr. Peter W. Welch:

Did thoroly appreciate receiving the Green Folder, telling all about the Astoria Picnic.

Was sorry to have missed receiving a prize; Alice Noe wrote me saying my name was called, but I'd left the grounds. Had an opportunity to drive to my hotel, with Albert Nelson of my old home town, otherwise, fully intended returning to the hotel with Olga and Alice.

Really, was just a little disappointed, because my name didn't appear among the 'pink~~kers~~' will write that word over again 'picnickers'. It was the first time I'd ever been in Portland when the affair was held. Lived most of my lifetime in Astoria, where my father took mama, my two sisters and myself, when we were very young children. However, in 1932, I joined my husband in Brooklyn, New York, and we lived there for eighteen years. Have been in San Francisco almost four years, and rather am of the opinion, we will continue to live here.

Rest assured, I do intend going to the Astoria Picninos in the future, and will look forward to meeting you. Before my marriage, my name was Elberta Olive Winton (Birdie), and am wondering if I knew your family! Was Alice Wood's mother any relation to you? Kindest regards to you.

Very sincerely,

*Elberta Olive Winton*

9/21/53

Dear Sir.

Please send to the  
enclosed address your copy  
of "The Ghost of Astor St."  
Thank you —

Mrs. Nellie G. Bailey  
2224 S. E. Clinton St.  
Portland 2 Ore



OSWALD WEST

Portland 8/28/53

Dear Helen:

Thanks ~~for~~ the  
copy of The Astoria Picnic Bulletin  
Sorry I couldn't be there.

I would enjoy receiving  
a copy of Robinson's "The Ghosts  
of Astor Street."

Yours,

Oswald West

Aug 31 '53

Dear Pete:-

Thanks so much for the interesting "run-down" of our Astoria picnic. It was a huge success.

I enjoyed Mr. Robison's speech so much. Surely would appreciate a copy or 2 of "The Ghost of Astor Street".

Thanks again

Freda Buck  
1218 S. W. Washington  
Portland 5 Ore

WALTER NORBLAD  
FIRST DISTRICT  
OREGON

OFFICES:  
1121 HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

220 POST OFFICE BUILDING  
SALEM, OREGON

COMMITTEES:  
ARMED SERVICES  
COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES  
MERCHANT MARINE AND  
FISHERIES

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, D. C.**

August 4, 1954

Mr. Peter W. Welch, Chairman  
Astoria Picnic Committee  
Office of the Surveyor  
Courthouse  
Portland 4, Oregon

Dear Pete:

Thanks very much for your letter of recent date  
inviting me to attend the Astoria picnic on August 15th  
in Portland.

I of course do not know just what my schedule will  
be at that time but will make every effort to be there.

With kindest personal regards, I am,

Cordially,



WALTER NORBLAD

WN/r

Chase City - Va  
Aug. 5<sup>th</sup> 1954.

Mr. Peter W. Welch  
Portland, Oregon  
Dear Peter Welch:

Your card announcing Astorians  
Annual Picnic reached me to-  
day and I must confess made me  
homesick, but first which  
branch of the Welch family are  
you?

Col. Currier and I have talked  
of taking a trip to Oregon and  
right now we are trying to make  
plans for a trip next summer.  
Until last year we had some  
of our 6 children home but-



Now they are all married and  
we are back where we started  
I am still up to my neck in  
my music. This year I am  
taking over Public School  
music in one of the County  
Schools from 1<sup>st</sup> grade through  
Choral Club in the High School  
with private piano classes on the  
side.

Our children are scattered  
One daughter in Calif. one in  
New York and one in Washingt.  
D. C. Sec. in Senator Eugene  
Millikin's office. Our eldest

2/ son Frank Taylor Carrier. Capt.  
of Infantry <sup>who is stationed near us now</sup> went through World  
War II and spent 6 mo on Korean  
front. Wm P. Jr. will open his  
law office in Chase City the  
1<sup>st</sup> of the year. and our youngest  
is married to a farmer and lives  
about 10 miles out of Chase City.

I doubt that there are many  
of Fathers or Mothers friends left.  
but would love to see some  
of my old friends and per-  
haps Col. Carrier. and I will  
be able to be there next year.

My regards to any friends who  
May be There and I was pleased  
to know I hadn't been forgotten.

Very Sincerely

Margaret-Taylor Currier

(Mrs. W<sup>m</sup> P.)

P O Box 307

Chase City, Va.

Mrs H. W. Mc Devitt  
225 Hyde St  
San Francisco, Calif





Monday Morning  
August 9, 1954

Dear Mr. Welch:

Certainly appreciated receiving the invitation to attend the Astorian' Annual Picnic. I was there last year, and for the first time.

What a pleasant surprise it was to meet many people who used to live in Astoria! My father went to Astoria when my two sisters and myself, were very young. With the exception of the eighteen years when I lived in New York, Astoria was my home.

If you can find the time, I'd like to be remembered to Mabel and Edith Ohler, Lou Knutsen, Charles Robinson, Will Belcher and his sister Maud, also dear Olga and Alice Noe. I was the guest of Olga and Alice last August 16th, did thoroly enjoy the occasion. Please give my love to Olga and Alice.

Altho I will not attend the Picnic in person, however, I will be there in spirit: My kindest regards to you Mr. Welch, and I do know August 15th, will be a memorable day for friends to meet and chat together for awhile.

"Birdie Ninton"

Edith Ohler  
Very sincerely,  
Edith Ohler

Tucker Va.  
Aug. 9<sup>th</sup> 1954

Mr Peter Welch,  
Portland Oregon

Dear Pete:

My brother Fritz has pleaded with me to fly to Portland for your Janforce  
some Aug 15<sup>th</sup>. There is one item on your  
memo that caused me to hesitate - This  
"free coffee" offering detracts from the  
proposed proceedings and really appears  
sinister. If some wilful politician is  
behind this proposed fest, certain reactors  
in Washington will be ready to investigate  
and indict - Knowing the Welch family  
as I did in the days of yore, I am sure  
you will have no part in such a maneuver.  
Anyway have a good time and if Fritz  
attends see that he remains in the  
background -

Possibly I may be in Portland soon  
and shall be glad to talk with you.

High personal regards.

Cecil R. Borey

366 Taylor Ave  
Astoria, Oregon  
Sept. 9 - 1953

Peter Welch -  
67 Court House  
Portland, Oregon  
Dear Sir -

In looking over the account of  
the Astoria annual Picnic held  
in your city recently, I read of an  
offer of a copy of Mrs. Robinson's  
Sketch of Astor Street.

I am desirous of obtaining a  
copy of it, if possible before  
the end of next week as I'm making  
a trip to Los Angeles and would  
like to show it to old Astorian  
friends there -

I am a sister-in-law of  
J. Otto Erickson former District  
Attorney, you remember him, I'm  
sure -

Thanking you very much, I  
am enclosing self addressed

Mrs. Frederick C. Erickson

Envelope for your convenience -  
Is there any charge?

Yours sincerely -

Hilda M. Erickson

(Mrs. Fred Erickson)



At the same spot as last year, on the Ankeny Street side -- near the comfort house -- known as the Valley in beautiful LAURELHURST PARK -- SUNDAY -- AUGUST 15 NOON to WHENYUHGGETTIREDOFUS -- 3rd. Sunday in AUGUST.

### ASTORIAN'S ANNUAL PICNIC

Tell your Astoria Friends -- bring your family and Astoria friends and neighbors. -- Lots of FREE coffee -- FREE pop n' coke -- Lots of prizes -- Lots of good old fashioned "Do you remember?" sessions -- Lots of your old friends n' neighbors. Don't forget our annual picnic n' get-to-gether on the 3rd. Sunday of August.

Peter W. Welch, Chairman  
627 County Court House, Portland 4, Oregon



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

Peter W Welch  
627 County Court House  
Portland 4  
Oregon

Peace be Aug 23/4  
Dear Fund. Fife; just a few words of  
thanks for a wonderful afternoon  
at the picnic, you did a wonderful  
job and deserved a lot of praise  
for time and effort you put into  
it, thank you again from both of us  
and we hope we can be with you  
next year Fred & Sadie.

Sept. 11, '53.

Mrs Fredrick C. Erickson  
366 Taylor St.  
Astoria, Oregon

My Dear Mrs Erickson:

Sorry I've not been able to get Charlie Robison to dictate the words of "The Ghosts of Astor Street", but he has been sick and at home most of the time since the Astoria picnic. However, I just had a conversation with him on the phone and he said he would be in for sure on Tuesday and would get the job done.

As soon as I can have it set up and mimeographed I'll have a copy sent along to you..... There have been numerous requests from others for copies and I expect to send out upwards to 50 copies to those who have asked for them.

Yes indeed I remember Otto Erickson very well, and if my memory does not fail me, I have an idea he is one of the gang who used to hang out around the old Fisher Opera House with us.... Gosh, we used to have a lot of fun.... We saw every show that come to town and we never would think of paying to get in... If we could not deliver hand bills, or some such work to get in to see the show, we would dig up a dime and Earl Fisher would sneak us in through the old Fisher barn, which was next to the opera house---( I never could figure out why they did call it an opera house, but I guess that was the custom in those days)---

Gosh, it looks like I left some "e's" outa "Opera" but that was the way they pronounced it and who is concerned about a few "e's" anyway?

If you will send me your Los Angeles address, I'll mail the copies to you down there along about the end of next week?

With my very kindest personal regards, I am

Very sincerely

Wesley Welch



Portland, August 24, 1954

Mr. Peter Welch,  
Chairman Ex-Astorians.

Dear Sir:

As an Ex-Astorian who has attended every picnic except one, and that because of illness, I take the liberty of expressing my opinion of the last one.

In the first place the yearly gathering of old friends and neighbors was the dream of Mr. Fred Johnson, a time for reminiscing and visiting with each other. Now that it has become a political, beer-drinking affair, I know that I express the feeling of many present this year, who come to the Park directly from Church and anticipating a joyous occasion, that the picnic isn't what it used to be.

Many friends who I have met there year after year were absent, and if this continues others will be absent another year. For those who like that sort of thing, it seems to me that another time could be found for that purpose, not a Sunday afternoon.

The 3rd Sunday in August I, personally, Mr. Benoit and many others, look forward to thru the year, so here is hoping that in the future our picnics will be bigger and better.

Thanking you for your part, which I know is a large undertaking, I am

Sincerely,

*Mrs. A. John Benoit*

August 25, '54.

Mrs A. John Benoit  
6626 S E 18 Ave.,  
Portland 2, Oregon.

My Dear Mrs Benoit:

Thank you for your letter of the 24th. inst.,  
and the comments and suggestions re the Astorian's picnic.

Please be assured your very constructive ideas  
and suggestions are accepted in the tenor in which they have  
been offered. I, to, have cherished the third sunday in August  
as a date of importance in my callender for many years. It has  
been my pleasure to meet with old friends and neighbors and to  
feast and reminisce. It has filled my heart with much pleasure  
to be able to attend throughout the past years.

However, I must take umbrage to your expression  
that; "Now that it has become a political, beer-drinking affair"  
and that; "You express the feeling of many present this year,  
who come to the Park directly from Church and anticipate a joy-  
ous occasion, that the picnic isn't what it used to be".

During the past week numerous letters were  
recieved saying they thought the picnic was a splendid success  
and several telephone calls were in the same tenor. Before the  
picnic ended, a dozen or more people personally thanked the  
writer upon the success of the gathering. I am of the honest  
opinion that most of the people with whom I had contact, are  
fully satisfied. At least, that is my impression.

It might be of interest for you to know that  
the actual cash outlay for such an affair is in excess of \$100.00  
and the collection at the picnic was less than \$20.00. There  
were more than 200 total attendance, so, all in all, providing  
the variety of amusement and entertainment, coffee, drinks and  
accoutriments, public speakers and announcements. I am deeply  
grieved to learn of your dissatisfaction. I hope the next year's  
picnic will meet with your approval.

Sincerely

Peter W. Welch

1954 Prize donations for the  
ASTORIAN'S PICNIC

Hotel Gearhart--by John Osborn	2- Swimming Pool tickets 2- Horseback ride tickets
Erickson Floral Co., Inc. 573 Commercial St. Astoria	1-5.00 Merchandise order
Reed & Grimberg--Home of Floreshhim shoes 558 Commercial St. Astoria	2- pair Women hose order
Shaner & Co----Good Jewelry 477 Commercial St. Astoria	1-\$5.00 compact
Columbia Travel Bureau-Floyd C. Foster 438 Commercial St. Astoria	1-\$5.00 in trade on Air tick
Frank Porter Furniture Co Cor. 10th. & Commercial St. Astoria	1-\$3.00 in trade
Al Crohn--Gent's furnishings 452 Commercial St. Astoria	1--Sport shirt
Ekstrom's Jewelers--Lloyd & Georgia Cor 9th, & Commercial St. Astoria	1-\$5.00 order in merchandise
Burke's Men's Store 509 Commercial St. Astoria	1-\$2.00 ordr good for 1 bel
Astoria Hardware Co. Joe J. Leahy 532 Commercial St. Astoria	1-\$5.00 trade order.
The Fur Trader by Edward J. McNally John Jacob Astor Hotel, Astoria	2--\$3.50 Steak dinners
Columbia River Packers Assn, Inc by Thos F. Sandoz, Pres. Astoria	1-Case asst'd Bumble Bee sea foods--48 cans
Soverign Barber shop--Frank Pehner Soverign Hotel---Portland	5--\$1.50 haircuts
Al. R. Johnson 1729 N E Stanton St Portland	2--\$150 Bxs of candy
Joseph P. Brown Thurlow Glove Co 100 N E Union Ave	1- pr \$5.00 Doeskin gloves
Peter W. Welch, 627 County Court House	The deficit
Wilson Shirt Shop Broadway at Washington	1--Sport shirt





Hulda I. Hagblom  
c/o Hotel John Jacob Astor  
Astoria, Oregon.

Monday Night

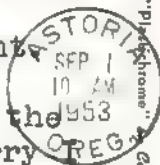
Dear Mr. Welch:

Thanks so much for the letter, and was sorry I couldn't come up to the Astorian Picnic this year. This is our busy time in the hotel, and no days off until after Labor Day. The Derby brings them in, and today the largest Salmon caught weighed a little over 46 pounds.

Best wishes,

*Hulda*

P1492



"Planchrome" Goldenrod, Balcon 15, Hotel, N.S.A.

Post



ADDRESS

Mr. Peter W. Welch  
627 County Court House  
Portland 4, Oregon



2080

BEacon 1927

DELIVERY DATE

8-15-54

DELIVER TO \_\_\_\_\_ DAY \_\_\_\_\_ TIME \_\_\_\_\_ A.M.  
P.M.

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

BILL TO Peles W. Lek Room 621 Court House

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

NUMBER OF PEOPLE TO SERVE \_\_\_\_\_ ORDERED BY \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

		PRICE		
13 gal	HOT COFFEE	5 gal S-S	7 Bk	13 15
100	CUPS			1 60
	SPOONS			
	DONUTS			
	CAKES			
	SANDWICHES			
	OTHER FOOD ITEMS:			
SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: Asteron		TOTAL		14 75

**SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:**

RECEIVED BY \_\_\_\_\_ ORDER TAKEN BY Maria

FROM STORE NO. \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

COUNTY OF MULTNOMAH

OFFICE OF THE SURVEYOR

COURTHOUSE

PORTLAND 4, OREGON

March 4, 1955.

*Peter W. Welch*  
COUNTY SURVEYOR

Park Bureau, City of Portland  
Portland City Hall  
Portland 4, Oregon

Attention: Hon. H. B. Buckley  
Sup't. of Parks

Gentlemen:-

On the third Sunday of August last year, former Astorian's in and about Portland, gathered to renew friendships and talk of the old home town etc; in The Valley # 1, in Laurelhurst Park. They instructed me to thank the Park Bureau and your personnell for the use of the park facilities and the treatment accorded them. I regret neglecting this obligation until this time.

May the same group--Astorian's picnic--reserve the same location, which is The Valley # 1 in Laurelhurst Park, for the third Sunday of August 1955. That would be August 21st. 1955.

It is expected that there will be 200 to 250 picnickers and friends at this gathering.

Yours very truly

*Peter W. Welch*  
Peter W. Welch, Chairman  
Astorian's Picnic

PERMIT FOR PICNIC

#33

Date March 7, 1955

Name of Park where picnic is to be held Laurelhurst

Date and Hours of Picnic August 21, 1955; all day

Estimated number of participants 200 - 250

Permit requested (if for any organization give name of same, and name and address of secretary, or other official in charge)

Astorian's picnic

Peter W. Welch, Multnomah County Courthouse

Special privileges requested want valley #1

This permit is issued in accordance with Ordinance No. 32929, which prohibits soliciting, vending, religious or political speaking, etc., nor is this permit exclusive.

Approved

H. B. Bentley  
Superintendent of Parks *mt*

To Ray Gehrtz  
Foreman of Park

3554 SE Ankeny

Address

*Em 5526*

Original permit to be mailed to person applying for same and copy to be mailed to Foreman of Park where picnic is to be held.



March 7, 1955.

Hon. Francis Clay Harley  
164 Norwood Ave.  
Edgewood 5, R. I.

My Dear Mr Mayor:

There may have been other titles, but, Mr Mayor was the one we knew you by in the salmon capitol of the world, so it will be Mr Mayor---period...

At the Astorians picnic in Laurelhurst Park on the 3rd. Sunday in August, it was my pleasure to read your splendid epistle to the assembled crowd. After reading it a resolution was passed to send you the groups "greetings". This, I do now, though it is somewhat belated. That is because I've been neglectful in keeping up the correspondence of the picnic group.

Many of your old time friends were there. Many who's names have passed into the limbo of forgetfulness. Many whom you would call by their first name if you could have been there to greet them. Many who said you should have stayed in Astoria to help make it the real city of destiny. and, there have been many during the past twenty odd years who have attended--who have now gone into the great beyond--who would also send the same greetings and the same good will message. To you and me, their name are legend...

Of course the old town is somewhat changed from your days. The area from the Clatsop mill to the old Standard Oil docks is now, all dry land, whereas, in your days, it was on piles and the tides would ebb and flow under the main part of town. However, the old city is still a fishing village reeking with history and there arev some families like the Fultons, the Ekstroms, the Danborns, O'briens Osborns and a few others who are into the fifth and sixth generations and still residents of the city.

The Welch's have all left the city, so have the Shivley's the Adairs and the McClures. They were the first families, arriving in the 1840's. There are no more Gratke's there. John and Bill and George are all gone, so are their families.. Even Herman Wise's progeny--except for one grandson--have all left.. Many of those of your time are spread over the length and breadth of the United States. Charley Halderman and Randall Peed are about the only two, who would greet you on Commercial street as old friends.... Oh, there may be a few more, but they would be scarce. I would make you a bet you could walk from one end of the street to the other and every one you'd meet would consider you a stranger---maybe they might say, "Oh, there is another of those tourists"...

Anyway--come the third Sunday in August, and the old folks who were once Astorians, and who live in and around Portland, will gather again in Laurelhurst Park and it will be another one of those "Do you remember" parties and every one will have a good time.

Cheerio and good luck  
Peter W. Welch

Aug. 19, 1955.

Hon. Otto A. Owen  
Lewis & Clark Centennial  
Committee of Clatsop County  
P O Box 324--Astoria, Ore..

My Dear Otto:-

There were 500 of the notices of the picnic sent out to ex-Astorians by me and there will be at least ten of them who are depending on me for transportation which I have promised will be in front of the court house at 8 A.M. on the day of the picnic. So you can put me down for a party of 12 as I feel sure there will be a few more.

Enclosed is a check for \$6 from Grace Fox Trulinger for another six picnics. This was in the letter which you forwarded to me, so you see some of them sort of get mixed up.. There have been others who have called me on the phone telling me they intended to be there.

Jennie Curtiss sent word through Tess Mack that she would be up here and wanted to ride down from here with Tess and myself... Fritz Sovey sent word he would be here and Mrs Matt Pomeroy and Allan have sent word they were trying to arrange things so they could be there. There have been others and then, of course there are some who will be there and say nothing of it, as they forget or misinterpret instructions.

I feel confident you can count on 50 of our crowd and maybe 100 plus those who attend from around Astoria.

Next week we will have several items in the Portland press and Rollie Truitt will have it on his baseball broadcast.. Also I have sent the notice and news story out to a dozen or so city editors and weeklies who should use the story this coming week to remind Astorian's in their locality.

I think you fellows have done a wonderful job of news story coverage and if the good weather holds up, I am sure the whole affair will be successful.. All of you are to be complimented....

Sincerely

  
Peter W. Welch

# EXECUTIVE BOARD

ROBERT LORENZ HANSEN, ASTORIA,  
General Chairman  
OTTO OWEN, ASTORIA,  
1st Vice-Chairman  
ENNETH A. HOUSE, SEASIDE,  
2nd Vice-Chairman  
KENT MARSHALL, CANNON BEACH,  
3rd Vice-Chairman  
A DEL THOMPSON, ASTORIA,  
Secretary  
WILLIAM SEEBORG, ASTORIA,  
Treasurer  
EAN HALLAUX, ASTORIA,  
Chairman of Publicity  
ERRY W. SULLIVAN, ASTORIA,  
Chairman of Programming  
DE NERENBERG, ASTORIA,  
Chairman of Finance  
MIL LEPLA, SEASIDE,  
Seaside Member at Large

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS

ASTORIA  
URNBY BELL  
RS. K. S. BERG  
LE BERGE  
O BERGHOLM  
RS BOB BIDDLE  
RS EMIL BJORK  
OM CHRISTENSON  
AROLD DAHLGREN  
CHARD DAVIS  
JAMES DeFOE  
ON DeVOLDER  
SEPH M. DYER  
GEORGE FULTON  
RS. H. HAGGREN  
R. E. W. HARVEY  
AROLD S. HAYNES  
ARK HAYNES  
RS EINO HEINO  
I. JOHN HICKMAN  
RS. WM. B. JOHNSON  
RTHUR L. JULIAN  
ILLIAM H. LARSON  
A. LARSON  
AS. LAUDERDALE  
ILLIAM LEAHY  
R J M. LEINASSAR  
BERT S. LOVELL  
C. MACDONALD  
MACDONALD  
J. McNALLY  
MES MANTELL  
ON MALARKEY  
LBERT MARXEN  
TE MILLER  
NOVAN MITCHELL  
NY NAIMO  
W NORBLAD  
B PARNELL  
LT PAULSEN  
W ROSE  
S L. SCHALK  
SLEY SHANER  
S L. STEARMER  
RRY SWANSON  
N. THORNDIKE  
ULIP WEINSTEIN  
K WHITNEY  
E. WOOLDRIDGE  
BRENTON  
& MRS. DICK FORD  
JOHNSON  
FLOYD WRIGHT  
K BALDWIN  
I. D. K. WARREN  
NON BEACH  
L SWIGART  
RHART  
HOLMSTROM  
V OSBURN  
MOND  
NER HOLSTEIN  
IEL A. MOORE  
C. SIMONSEN  
IDE  
Y LEBEQUE  
V. J. MARTIN  
MEIER  
R NIELSEN  
SIVERTSEN

# LEWIS & CLARK SESQUICENTENNIAL Committee of Clatsop County, Ore., Inc.

Headquarters, 419-423 Commercial St.

P. O. Box 324

Astoria, Oregon

Phone 90

August 18, 1955

# HONORARY OFFICERS

HONORABLE PAUL PATTERSON,  
Honorary Chairman  
Governor of Oregon  
ROBERT D. HOLMES,  
Honorary Vice-Chairman  
Oregon State Senator  
ORVAL EATON,  
Honorary Vice-Chairman  
Oregon State Representative

# HONORARY EXECUTIVE BOARD

PETER G. COSOVICH,  
Mayor of Astoria  
JAMES SCARBOROUGH,  
Mayor of Gearhart  
ROBERT J. FOX,  
Mayor of Hammond  
LESTER U. RAW,  
Mayor of Seaside  
HAROLD C. GRAMSON,  
Mayor of Warrenton

# GOVERNOR'S COMMITTEEMAN

DR. WALTER L. HAY, ASTORIA

# MANAGING DIRECTOR

JACK MATLACK, PORTLAND

# OFFICE SECRETARY

MISS SHIRLEY JULIAN, ASTORIA

Peter W. Welch  
County Surveyor  
Multnomah County Court House  
Portland, Oregon

Dear Peter:

Enclosed herewith find an official program of the Sesquicentennial celebration. You will note Sunday, August 28, 12 o'clock noon is the time of the Ex-Astorians Picnic on the lawn of the Clatsop County Historical Society Museum.

We have not received as many cards from people that will attend as we had hoped to. We expect, however, during the last week, that we will receive many more. Please do your utmost to encourage attendance at this great picnic in Historic Astoria, August 28, 1955.

Yours very sincerely,

CLATSOP COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY



Otto A. Owen  
President

OAO:sj

Encl.



NATIONAL INSTITUTE of PUBLIC EDUCATION  
EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT

FRANCIS CLAY HARLEY, ~~DEACT~~ Resigned.  
1410 H St., N. W., Washington, D. C.

Please send reply to  
New York Office

~~172 E 17th St. New York 10 NY.~~

Aug. 15, 1955

My Dear Peter Welch:

Thanks from the bottom of my heart for the invitation of the Astoria Picnic Committee, to attend the "OLD TIMERS PICNIC" on the Flavel Estate Grounds, which I only wish I could attend as it would revolve in my memory the last visit I ever made at the Flavel home to say good-bye to Miss Nellie and her Mother who were always champions and supporters of mine to make a bigger and better Astoria. As also was Harry Flavel, and many Old Timers who have passed on to the Happy Hunting Grounds, as Mother and Peter Grant, John Fry, Billie Olson, John Gratke, Jack Burns, John Chitwood, Charlie Naemi, Father John Waters, Rev. Gregory, Chaplainm World War One, and many others incuding yourself. It was my intention to get out there this year for your picnic at Portland as I knew nothing about the Regatta at Astoria, which I was Chairman three times, and I hope whoever is Chairman for 1955 his effort is crowned with the greatest of success, and the only reason I am unable to attend the picnic would be that I would be unable to recognize any of my old time friends, as my sight is now almost gone less than 2\$ vision left, therefore, I will appreciate id you will overlook all errors as it has taken me 4 hours to write this letter, in fact, it will be one of the last letters I will attempt to write myself on this machine I have used for 35 years. In closing I want to thank you again Peter for remembering me again this year because my heart still lies in ASTORIA, which should by all rights be one of the leading ports on the coast, which I hope I will be able to visit again before taking the long jump. Be sure and rememeber me to Mrs. Harry Flavel, Harry Jr. and Sister, Charlie Johnson, my old acting 'Mayor' Bob. Borns, Pagler of the Astoria Budget and all my other friends, including any of my friendly enemies for a grand time at the Old Timers including the New Timers Picnic. May God be with you all, GOOD-BY

Sincerely

  
Francis Clay Harley.



# HISTORICAL STATEMENT

---

Clatsop Plains Church, oldest continuing Presbyterian Church west of the Rockies, was organized September 19, 1846. twelve years before Oregon was admitted to Statehood, February 14, 1859.

William Henry Gray had come west with the Whitman-Spalding Party of the Presbyterian Church in 1836, and shortly thereafter became one of the first settlers of the Clatsop Plains district. The Rev. Lewis Thompson, who had been ordained in the "Upper Missourie" Presbytery in 1843 and was the first religious worker in the Coastal Northwest, arrived in the fall of 1846. He was asked to preach a sermon in the home of the Grays, and immediately following the service organized the Church with Alva Condit as Ruling Elder and as charter members, Mr. and Mrs. Gray and Mr. and Mrs. Condit.

The original church building was erected in 1850, at a cost of \$2500.00 on a tract of 10 acres donated by Mr. and Mrs. R.W. Morrison. That building was destroyed in a storm. The present beautiful brick structure built on the site of the first was largely the gift of Mrs. Jacob Kamm in memory of her parents the Grays.

Immediately behind the church building is the Pioneer Cemetery, as old as the Church itself, where rest the original settlers of the community and their immediate descendants.

HISTORICAL TEA with PROGRAM in the church annex. 10 miles south of Astoria on highway 101. See the old pulpit made for this church in 1850, also old Bible. Visit the cemetery opened in 1846 where many pioneers are buried. TEA is Friday, 1:30-5.



## GRAY MEMORIAL CHAPEL

insert is copy of replica of the first church building on exhibit in the

Memorial Chapel.

March 14, 1956.

Park Bureau, City of Portland  
Portland City Hall  
Portland 4, Oregon

Attention: Hon. H. B. Buckley  
Sup't. of Parks

Gentlemen:-

Former Astorians' who gather upon the third Sunday of August each year in Laurelhurst Park have asked me to request a reservation for them for this year which will be August 19th, 1956.

If possible, we would like to have the same location as former years, which is the Valley # 1 spot near the park comfort station.

It is expected there will be about 200 people attending the Former Astorians' Annual picnic.

Very sincerely



Peter W. Welch

PERMIT FOR PICNIC

#53

Date March 15, 1956

Name of Park where picnic is to be held Laurelhurst

Date and Hours of Picnic August 19, 1956; all day

Estimated number of participants 200

Permit requested (if for any organization give name of same, and name and address of secretary, or other official in charge)

Former Astorians' Annual picnic

Peter W. Welch, County Surveyor, Multnomah County Courthouse

Special privileges requested want a nice, level spot close to kitchen

This permit is issued in accordance with Ordinance No. 32929, which prohibits soliciting, vending, religious or political speaking, etc., nor is this permit exclusive.

Approved

H B Buckley  
Superintendent of Parks

To Ray Gehrtz  
Foreman of Park

3554 SE Ankeny

Address

Original permit to be mailed to person applying for same and copy to be mailed to Foreman of Park where picnic is to be held.



# LEWIS & CLARK SESQUICENTENNIAL

## Committee of Clatsop County, Ore., Inc.

Headquarters, 419-423 Commercial St.

P. O. Box 324

Astoria, Oregon

Phone 90

7-20

SEASIDE

GEARHART

CANNON BEACH

ASTORIA

HAMMOND

WARRENTON

### LEWIS AND CLARK SESQUICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION AUGUST 18 - 28, 1955

Re-live the days of Captain Meriwether Lewis and Captain William Clark, President Thomas Jefferson's exploring team to the great Pacific Northwest, by coming to Clatsop County, Oregon at the mouth of the Columbia River. You will see the sights, and experience the same thrills as did Lewis and Clark at the end of their 2,000 mile trek over land and water.

#### GENERAL DAY-BY-DAY SCHEDULE

- August 18, Thurs: Astoria Regatta. (Marine events, Coronation of Queen, Pirates' Den, Admiral's Rendezvous.)
- August 19, Fri : Astoria Regatta. ( Marine events, Reception for Regatta admiral Major-General William Dean, Kiddies Parade, Pirates' Den)
- August 20, Sat : Astoria Regatta. (G. AND PARADE, jointly with Sesquicentennial Committee--Indians, bands, floats--Marine events, Queen's Ball, Pirates' Den, Sou'wester Garden Club Flower Show)
- August 21, Sun : FORT CLATSOP DEDICATION. (Dedication of reconstructed Fort Clatsop by Governor Patterson, naming of Miss Sacajawea, arrival of Lewis and Clark party by water, pancake breakfast, barbeque, Indian dances, Sou'wester Garden Club Flower Show, Pacific Art Guild Outdoor Paint at Fort Clatsop)
- August 22, Mon : Seaside Day, (Dedication of Salt Cairn by Senator Richard Neuberger, evening night show, Gearhart Art Exhibit, Seaside Antique Exhibit, Parade, dancing)
- August 23, Tues : Seaside Day, (Ball game, night events, fireworks display)
- August 24, Wed : Pioneer Lay, (Museum tours, Pioneer Fashion Tea, Hammond Wigwam Dance, Hammond Salmon Bake, Dedication of marker of 1st Post Office west of Rockies, street dance, Plywood Makers Convention, Tea at Historic D. K. Warren Home in Warrenton).
- August 25, Thurs: Cannon Beach Day, (Mus el chowder feed, Western Horse Show)
- August 26, Fri : Pageant La, (Street Dance, Astoria Pirates' Den, Tonquin explosion, Pioneer reunion.)
- August 27, Sat : Jamboree Day, (Barrel Race in the Columbia, judging of County-wide costume and beard growing contest, Northwest Jamboree Circle "8" Square Dance, start of annual Salmon Derby on the Columbia River, until Sept. 5, Street Dance)
- August 28, Sun : Devotional Day, (Devotional services, ex-Astorians Picnic, AKC Dog Show)

Everyday there will be open house aboard U. S. Naval vessels moored at Astoria.

LEWIS AND CLARK WERE HERE IN 1805\*\*\*\*\*YOU CAN BE HERE IN 1955

# EXECUTIVE BOARD

ROBERT LORENZ HANSEN, ASTORIA,  
General Chairman  
OTTO OWEN, ASTORIA,  
1st Vice Chairman  
KENNETH A. HOUSE, SEASIDE,  
2nd Vice-Chairman  
C. KENT MARSHALL, CANNON BEACH,  
3rd Vice-Chairman  
IDA DEL THOMPSON, ASTORIA,  
Secretary  
WILLIAM SEEBORG, ASTORIA,  
Treasurer  
JEAN HALLAUX, ASTORIA,  
Chairman of Publicity  
JERRY W. SULLIVAN, ASTORIA,  
Chairman of Programming  
JOE NERENBERG, ASTORIA,  
Chairman of Finance  
EMIL LEPLA, SEASIDE,  
Seaside Member at Large

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### ASTORIA

BURNBY BELL  
MRS. K. S. BERG  
OLE BERGE  
LD BERGHOLM  
MRS. BOB BIDDLE  
MRS. EMIL BJORK  
TOM CHRISTENSON  
HAROLD DAHLGREN  
RICHARD DAVIS  
CHARLES DeFOE  
DON DeVOLDER  
JOSEPH M. DYER  
GEORGE FULTON  
MRS. H. HAGGREN  
DR. E. W. HARVEY  
HAROLD S. HAYNES  
MARK HAYNES  
MRS. EINO HEINO  
DR. JOHN HICKMAN  
MRS. WM. B. JOHNSON  
ARTHUR L. JULIAN  
WILLIAM H. LARSON  
V. A. LARSON  
CHAS. LAUDERDALE  
WILLIAM LEAHY  
DR. J. M. LEINASSAR  
ROBERT S. LOVELL  
PONT. C. MACDONALD  
E. C. MACDONALD  
E. McNALLY  
JAMES MANTELL  
DON MALARKEY  
GILBERT MARXFN  
PETE MILLER  
DONOVAN MITCHELL  
TONY NAIMO  
A. W. NORBLAD  
BOB PARNELL  
WILT PAULSEN  
ED W. ROSE  
MRS. L. SCHALK  
WESLEY SHANER  
MRS. L. STEARMER  
HARRY SWANSON  
A. N. THORNDIKE  
PHILIP WEINSTEIN  
DICK WHITNEY  
R. E. WOOLDRIDGE

### WARRENTON

MR. & MRS. DICK FORD  
ED JOHNSON  
MRS. FLOYD WRIGHT  
DICK BALDWIN  
MRS. D. K. WARREN

### CANNON BEACH

PAUL SWIGART  
GEARHART  
BILL HOLMSTROM  
JOHN OSBURN

### HAMMOND

WARNER HOLSTEIN  
EATHEL A. MOORE  
MRS. C. SIMONSEN

### SEASIDE

SMOKY LEBEQUE  
DR. W. J. MARTIN  
KEN MEIER  
GER NIELSEN  
SIVERTSEN

# LEWIS & CLARK SESQUICENTENNIAL

## Committee of Clatsop County, Ore., Inc.

Headquarters, 419 - 423 Commercial St.

P. O. Box 324

Astoria, Oregon

Phone 90

July 28, 1955

Peter W. Welch  
County Surveyor  
Multnomah County Court House  
Portland, Oregon

Dear Peter:

Received your letter today, also the circulars which you included. We are making all preparations for our picnic to be held on Sunday, August 28, at the Flavel Museum grounds.

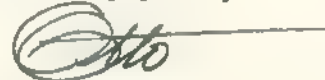
Since I last wrote you, I am happy to tell you that we will have music for the occasion, as the Astoria band will put on a concert for us during the afternoon. This concert will take place during our lunch hour so there will be no loss of time, as we may want to put on a short program.

I wish also to call your attention to the fact that the Annual Salmon Derby will be on at that time and many of our visitors may want to take a trip on the ferry over to the Washington side of the Columbia. There they will have an opportunity to see thousands of Derby fishermen, and all landing Chinook Salmon, we hope.

At our last meeting of the Clatsop County Historical Society, we named a reception committee of old timers who will be on hand to greet the visitors. Among them were Mr. and Mrs. August Hildebrand, May Spexarth Miller, Grace Knapp McCann, and the Sesquicentennial Committee will name quite a number of others. Will advise you later just who and how many there are.

This is all for now, Pete, and will write you again in a few days.

Very sincerely yours,



Otto A. Owen  
Vice Chairman

# HONORARY OFFICERS

HONORABLE PAUL PATTERSON,  
Honorary Chairman  
Governor of Oregon  
ROBERT D. HOLMES,  
Honorary Vice-Chairman  
Oregon State Senator  
ORVAL EATON,  
Honorary Vice-Chairman  
Oregon State Representative

## HONORARY EXECUTIVE BOARD

PETER G. COSOVICH,  
Mayor of Astoria  
JAMES SCARBOROUGH,  
Mayor of Gearhart  
ROBERT J. FOX,  
Mayor of Hammond  
LESTER U. RAW,  
Mayor of Seaside  
HAROLD C. GRAMSON,  
Mayor of Warrenton

## GOVERNOR'S COMMITTEEMAN

DR. WALTER L. HAY, ASTORIA

## MANAGING DIRECTOR

JACK MATLACK, PORTLAND

## OFFICE SECRETARY

MISS SHIRLEY JULIAN, ASTORIA

June 3, 1955.

Hon. Otto A. Owen  
Lewis & Clark Sesquicentennial  
P O Box 324  
Astoria, Oregon

My Dear Otto:-

Enclosed is a rough draft of what I have in mind for mailing to the list of names we have here of people who have been in attendance at our picnics for the past several years...

After going over the list of names I would say we would mail out about 400 and if we can get upwards of a hundred of 'em to come to Astoria I would count it a success.

Have called quite a few on the phone and all of 'em say they think it is a good idea to move the picnic to Astoria this year, so we have sort of taken the bull by the horns and will not hold the annual picnic here in Portland this year... It may be that this would induce others to make the trip to the old home town....

I figure it would be best to make the mailing right after the July Fourth celebration. That would tend to keep it fresh in mind and be in plenty of time to allow for necessary arrangements.

Sincerely

  
Westley

P S:::

This sort of mailing does not require an envelope and can be cancelled in our mailing machine here in the court house...



# The LEWIS & CLARK SESQUICENTENNIAL

Committee of Clatsop County, Inc.

P. O. Box 324

Astoria, Oregon

Phone 90

June 1, 1955

Peter W. Welch  
County Surveyor  
Multnomah County Court House  
Portland, Oregon

Dear Peter:

Your plans as outlined in your letter to me look wonderful. I am sure that we could have a grand time at the Flavel House during a picnic this year. In discussing the picnic with members of the committee, the suggestion was made that when you send out your announcement you also enclose some copies of the program of the daily schedule of all events that we are going to have down here.

Reading farther on in your letter, I see that you are intending to mail them on a fold-over unsealed piece of paper. Perhaps, you would like to address the envelopes and send them down here, and we will be glad to mail them out for you. We have some regular Sesquicentennial letterhead envelopes that we would be glad to forward you if you will tell us how many you need, should this idea strike your fancy.

I am enclosing a sample of our short program that we think might help to encourage the Astorians to come down for what we will call the "old timers picnic" on Sunday, August 28.

Please let us know at your earliest convenience whether or not you like any of these ideas and if so, which ones, and what would you like to have us do?

We have been discussing the food situation and we have some ideas we'd like to pass on to you, for your advice. As you have indicated, it can run into a little bit of expense, and we thought that perhaps, if you are going to make up a mailing between this initial announcement and the picnic itself, or even send out with this initial announcement a post-card addressed to us indicating that the person would bring their own lunch or would like to buy a lunch down here for a price, lets say not to exceed \$1.00. We'll figure out what the



Peter W. Welch

2

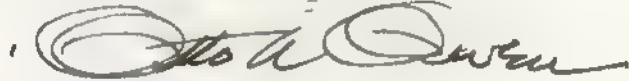
June 1, 1955

exact price will be after we've had a chance to get a committee together on it.

We have a problem in this food preparation because the people who come from a great distance (and who is determined what is a great distance) would possibly be entitled to a free feed at the expense of the contributors down here in Clatsop County, or those who come from a very short distance or still live in town certainly couldn't expect a free lunch. So if you will think the thing over, and let me know what you think of it, why we will be able to take it from there.

We do have a little bit of time, the picnic not being until August, so maybe we could get together on a good solid general plan.

Very sincerely yours,



Otto A. Owen  
Vice Chairman

LEWIS AND CLARK SESQUICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE

OA0:sj

Enc.

The LEWIS & CLARK SESQUICENTENNIAL  
Committee of Clatsop County, Inc.

P. O. Box 324

Astoria, Oregon

Astoria, Oregon  
May 27, 1955

Mr. Peter W. Welch  
County Surveyor  
Multnomah County Court House  
Portland, Oregon

Dear Peter,

As you know this year marks the One Hundred-Fiftieth Anniversary of the arrival of the Lewis and Clark Party at the Mouth of the Columbia River. We in Clatsop County are honoring the occasion by a Sesquicentennial Celebration.

We have arranged a large program for the entertainment of the thousands of visitors who will come to Astoria and to Clatsop County during the summer. It occurred to me that this year might be a good time to hold your Annual Ex-Astoria Picnic here instead of at Laurelhurst Park as you have done in past years. This is merely a suggestion on my part, and I am anxious to hear your reaction to the idea.

Arrangements can be made to hold the picnic at the Flavel Museum grounds or at the Clatsop County Fair grounds. We have ample facilities for preparing and serving food etc. We will place your name on our mailing list, and will keep you advised as the show progresses. Please let me know at your earliest convenience what you think of the idea.

Also wish to say that I have had telephone conversations and a couple of letters from our mutual friend, Fritz Sovey. He is keeping posted on the work we are doing here, and hopes to be able to spend a couple of months in Astoria if he can find a suitable dwelling.

The LEWIS & CLARK SESQUICENTENNIAL  
Committee of Clatsop County, Inc.

P. O. Box 324

Astoria Oregon

(2)

Please let me hear from you as soon as you  
can contact your group in Portland. I am,

Very sincerely yours,

*Otto L. Swen*

P.S. Since Sunday, August 21st will be the day of  
dedication of Fort Clatsop, I would suggest  
Sunday, August 28th as the day to hold the  
Astoria Picnic.

May 30, 1955.

Hon. Otto Owen  
Lewis & Clark Sesquicentennial  
Committee of Clatsop County  
P O Box 324  
Astoria, Oregon.

My Dear Otto:

Thank you for your kind invitation of the 27th. inst., I shall be very glad to try to get the former Astorians from this area to consider having their annual picnic take place in Astoria during the celebration.

In a day or two, I will send out a notice to the names I've collected, asking them if they would like to celebrate this year in the old home town. There are between 3 and 400 names on the list and of course some of them are names from addresses in Astoria. Some of these people have been coming to Portland each year just to be with their old neighbors and friends, also, a number of them are names from other places up and down the coast, and these, I feel sure, would be just as delighted to travel to Astoria, as they would be, to come to Portland.

Off hand, I would say, it would be best to use the Flavel Museum grounds as the place to have the picnic gathering. I would suggest the time as Noon to 1 P.M. as time to register and mix around as old friends greet each other. Lunch and picnic time from 1 to 2 P.M. and about one hour after that for the greeting and formal talk time. At about 3 P.M. the formalities could end and visiting and leave taking begin... In this way, those who would want to leave early could be on their way and have been there for all the festivities.

I think your suggestion of Sunday August 28th. is a good one, as this will not conflict with the dedication festivities at Fort Clatsop on the preceeding Sunday. I have an idea it would be best to have those who intend to come to Astoria, to send a post card to your committee, telling of their intention, then you could know and make such preparations as you would think necessary.



I wish you would send me as much information as possible on the sesquicentennial, so that I can incorporate it in the first notice to the mailing list which I have. I'll try make the notice as interesting as possible, so as to get as many former Astorians as we can to come for the gathering.

Many who would want to come, would have to travel from early morning to the gathering. Of course, some of them would be pretty well along in years and the trip would be more or less tiring. They would also have to travel back home after the gathering and their late arrival at home would leave them fatigued in the utmost from such a day's activities. These folks would not want to carry lunch baskets etc; such a distance, and might prefer a hot meal at one of the cafes in town. Or, another thought is that a catering service could be set up at the Flavel grounds, and, for a nominal sum, everyone could have a plate of something like a good old fashioned boiled or baked chinook salmon and the usual trimmings.

At our gatherings up here, I have found that free coffee and soft drinks, cigars and cigarettes are about all the attraction needed to get them to come out. Of course we have taken up a collection to offset the cost of these things, but in the end, one or two of us have stood the major expense. Last years picnic cost me approximately \$125 and the contributions were less than \$35.... So, whoever does it, might just as well accept the fact that, aside from all the detail work, they must also dig into their pocket for a large part of the costs.

I do not object to this personal cost, in fact, I just love it as it gives me the opportunity of seeing and talking to many people associated with my youth. For the past 20 years or more, I've always looked forward to the 3rd. sunday of August in Laurelhurst park as one of the highlights of the year. I shall remember and cherish each and everyone of these meetings.

You know Otto, at yours and my age, about all we have left are those memories which made our younger days in the old home town such a joyous and pleasant part of our life. I just love to relive them as much as possible and I know from the public work you are doing, that you have somewhat the same feeling as I. So, if we can do as you suggest for this year, I'm sure there will be many who will give you the heartfelt thanks you so richly deserve. I'm all for it Otto, and I will do the best I can to help you get the stage set for the Astorian's picnic in accordance with your splendid suggestion.

Sincerely

Peter W. Welch

1805      *Lewis and Clark*      1955

ASTORIA

HALEND

WARRENTON

*Sesquicentennial Committee  
of Clatsop County, Oregon, Inc.*

*P. O. Box 324*

*Astoria, Oregon*

SEASIDE

GEARHART

CANNON BEACH

LEWIS AND CLARK SESQUICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

AUGUST 18 - 28, 1955

Relive the days of Captain Meriwether Lewis and Captain William Clark, President Thomas Jefferson's exploring team to the great Pacific Northwest, by coming to Clatsop County, Oregon at the mouth of the Columbia River.

You will see the sights and experience the same thrills as did Lewis and Clark at the end of their 2,000 mile trek over land and water.

GENERAL DAY-BY-DAY SCHEDULE

August 18, Thurs: Astoria Regatta. (Marine events and street dancing)

August 19, Fri : Astoria Regatta. (Marine events)

August 20, Sat : Grand Parade Day, Astoria. (Indians, bands, floats, 2½ hours long, Astoria Regatta)

August 21, Sun : Dedication Day, Fort Clatsop, (dedication of reconstructed Fort Clatsop by Governor Patterson, naming of Miss Sacajawea, arrival of Lewis and Clark party by water, pancake breakfast, barbeque, Indian dances, fireworks)

August 22, Mon : Seaside Day, (Dedication of Salt Cairn, kiddies parade, evening night show, Art & Antique exhibit, ball game)

August 23, Tues : Seaside Day, (Clam feed, street dancing, night events, fireworks display)

August 24, Wed : Pioneer Day, (Museum tours, old-style clothing show, Grand Ball and show)

August 25, Thurs: Cannon Beach Day, (Mussel chowder feed, Western Horse Show)

August 26, Fri : Pageant Day, (Barbershop Quartet Pageant, street dancing)

August 27, Sat : Jamboree Day, (Barrel Race in the Columbia, Judging of County-wide costume and beard growing contest, Northwest Jamboree Circle "8" Square Dance)

August 28, Sun : Devotional Day, (Devotional services, AKC Dog Show)  
(Old Time Astorian's picnic)--Noon

The above schedule barely mentions the highlights, there will be many more activities in our communities of Clatsop County during the week.

"LEWIS AND CLARK WERE HERE IN 1805\*\*\*\*\*YOU CAN BE HERE IN 1955"

Astorian-Budget-----City Desk

Astorian's annual picnic and festival will be held this year in Laurelhurst park in Portland from Noon to 5 P.M. on Sunday Aug. 19th. The picnic area is near the park kitchen on S E Anheney St. at the Laurelhurst Place entrance to the park.

Festivities will start at Noon and the picnic at 2mP.M. coffee and soft drink refreshments will be supplied by the general committee.

A.R.Johnson and Peter W. Welch head the general committee assisted by Martin A. Brown, Alfred Ferland, Nels A. Jeldness, Adolph Wesche, C. Fred Cordiner and Alice Noe.



Oregonian-----City Desk

Astorian's annual picnic and festival will be held this year in Laurelhurst park from noon to 5 P.M. on Sunday August 19th. The picnic area is near the park kitchen on S E Ankeney st. at the Laurelhurst Place entrance to the park.

Festivities will start at Noon and the picnic at One P.M. coffee and soft drink refreshments will be supplied by the general committee.

Oregon Journal-----City Desk

Astorian's annual picnic and festival will be held this year in Laurelhurst park from Noon to 5 P.M. on Subday August 19th. The picnic area is near the park kitchen on S E Ankeney st. at the Laurelhurst Place entrance to the park.

Festivities will start at Noon and the picnic at One P,M. coffee and soft drink refreshments will be supplied by the general committee.



*Sunday*

PERMIT FOR PICNIC

#40

Date February 21, 1958

Name of Park where picnic is to be held Laurelhurst

Date and Hours of Picnic August 17, 1958; 12 on

Estimated number of participants 200

Permit requested (if for any organization give name of same, and name and address of secretary, or other official in charge)

Old Time Historians

Burdette Nelson, 6529 SE Knight, PR 5 4695

Special privileges requested want on knoll near kitchen

This permit is issued in accordance with Ordinance No. 32929, which prohibits soliciting, vending, religious or political speaking, etc., nor is this permit exclusive.

Approved *Henry R. Pinkley*  
Superintendent of Parks

*mb*

To Ray Gehrtz  
Foreman of Park

3554 SE Ankeny  
Address

*Sunday  
Aug 17*

Original permit to be mailed to person applying for same and copy to be mailed to Foreman of Park where picnic is to be held.

#1908



